

Extremists form home guard

Extremist groups have sworn in as members of a home guard in the city of Amman, Jordan, according to a report in the Jordanian press. The groups, which are active in the city, have been formed to protect the city from the threat of terrorism. The groups are active in the city, and have been formed to protect the city from the threat of terrorism. The groups are active in the city, and have been formed to protect the city from the threat of terrorism.

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Bhutto says war no solution

CAIRO (R) — Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto held out an olive branch to India Sunday, offering talks and saying war was no solution to the Kashmir dispute. "The conflict will not lead to a settlement... we are prepared to start a dialogue with India for a peaceful and political solution to the Kashmir problem," she told reporters. The two neighboring states are at daggers drawn over the mountainous region, sovereignty over which is split between them, with each accusing the other of war preparations. Bhutto, who arrived in Egypt Sunday on the sixth leg of an eight-state Islamic tour to drum up support for her cause, said India had repeatedly spurned attempts at peace talks. India, she said, was trying to implicate Pakistan in what she called a home-grown desire for the right to self-determination. "I believe the solution is to have a dialogue and reach a political settlement of the Kashmir issue in accordance with U.N. resolutions," Bhutto said.

King visits GHQ

AMMAN (Petra) — The Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, Sunday paid a visit to the Armed Forces Headquarters where he was received by Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb, his assistants and the commander of the Royal Jordanian Air Force as well as the Armed Forces inspector general. The King met with Abu Taleb for a while and discussed with him a number of issues of interest to the Armed Forces. The meeting was attended by Royal Court Chief Staff Zaid Ben Shaker.

ABC sets price for share issue

BAHRAIN (R) — Arab Banking Corporation BSC, the Arab World's largest bank, has set a \$14 share price for a new issue of 25 million shares beginning Tuesday, the bank manager for the offering in the Arab World said. Enzar Ahmad, vice president of the Riyadh-based Consulting Centre for Finance and Investment (CCFI) told Reuters that the \$330 million share offering would be privately placed, mainly with investors in the Arab World. Five million shares were earmarked for firms and investors outside the area while the remaining 20 million would be sold to the public on the Bahrain stock exchange, Ahmad said. "Legally, no limit has been fixed on the amount of shares being sold," he said, but in practice the bank is being offered through private placement, he said.

Israel plans 'send buffer'

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli army is developing a new tactic to combat the 22-month-old Palestinian uprising, military sources said Sunday. The sources said the tactic, which is expected to go into service with a new rubber bullet within a few months, would give soldiers an effective deterrent at short range. In July 1988 the army introduced plastic bullets as an alternative to live ammunition but official figures show they killed 125 Arabs by January 1990. "Later plastic-coated metal pellets were used but doctors estimate they also killed scores of protesters."

Libya seeks help against parasite

TRIPOLI (R) — Libya has called for immediate international help to eliminate a flesh-eating parasite threatening to take hold among livestock in North Africa. African ministers at a United Nations-sponsored meeting in Tripoli backed Libya's appeal for a major operation to destroy the American "screwworm fly" which lays its eggs in warm-blooded animals, including man. The larvae eat the flesh of their host as they hatch, usually killing about one-fifth of their victims. Libyan scientists discovered the insect near Tripoli two years ago in the first confirmed sighting outside North and South America.

Algerian journalist to start new television station

ALGERIA (R) — A prominent Algerian journalist plans a commercial television station, only the second in the Arab World to be privately owned. Kamel Belkacem, former director of the liberal weekly Algerie Actualite, told Reuters Sunday he and Algerian partners would form a broadcasting company shortly and the station itself could be up next year. Talks were under way with potential foreign partners for technical and financial help, including International Broadcasting System of the United States, Belkacem said. The station would broadcast to North Africa and Europe a blend of sports, music, talk shows and film 20 hours a day in Arabic, French and English. Part of the day's programming would be available to paying subscribers only. Morocco's Casablanca-based 2M International, available only to paying subscribers, is currently the only independent television station in the Arab World.

New massacre of Palestinians

Israeli gunman kills 8 in cold blood while army shoots dead another 8; over 700 wounded

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM

An Israeli gunman shot and killed at least eight Palestinians at a pick-up point for workers Sunday in what was clearly seen as a premeditated attack, and Israeli forces shot and killed another eight Palestinians and wounded about 700 others in widespread protests that followed.

According to dispatches filed by international news agencies, an Israeli man wearing army fatigues, rounded up Palestinian workers from the Gaza Strip for a bogus identity check and opened fire, on with an automatic rifle in a field, nicknamed "the slave market," where Gazans wait for labor at building sites. Eight people were killed and 10 others were wounded in the massacre.

As news of the killing spread, thousands of Palestinians defied Israeli-imposed curfews and other measures and took to the streets of the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip to protest the attack, and Israeli forces shot and killed at least eight of them and wounded over 700, according to reports from hospitals and United Nations clinics.

The attack occurred at 6 a.m. about 100 meters from a main highway outside the town of Rishon LeZion about eight

kilometers south of Tel Aviv where Arah workers from the Gaza Strip gather to be picked up for jobs in Israel.

Witnesses told police the Israeli, aged 20 or 21, armed with a U.S.-made M-16 assault rifle emerged from the bushes and demanded that identification papers from some of the labourers.

He then sprayed gunfire until his clip was empty. "After he took their identification cards he started shooting without stopping from a close range. He didn't stop until he ran out of ammunition," said a doctor who treated patients at the scene.

"Some of the wounded fell with their intestines spilling out," added an Arab witness.

Five of the Palestinians were in critical condition after being struck in the chest or abdomen and others were less seriously wounded with leg and arm wounds.

Israeli army radio said the evacuation of wounded was slow and that Israeli passively did not stop to help.

Police said the killer, who was not identified by name, escaped in a white Peugeot he stole at the scene and was apprehended shortly afterwards when he sought refuge at a girlfriend's house.

The army immediately imposed a curfew on the entire Gaza Strip and the West Bank cities of Nablus and Hebron.

But thousands of Palestinians defied the curfew, burning tyres, erect-

ing street barricades every few metres and attacking army patrols with rocks and petrol bombs, witnesses said.

Arab workers returned to the Gaza Strip in a long convoy of cars, trucks and buses, flashing headlights, honking horns, waving black shirts in mourning and crying "Allahu Akbar".

In the Jabalya refugee camp, where the uprising began Dec. 8, 1985, four army helicopters fired tear gas at masses of people who attacked army outposts. They said soldiers on rooftops fired in the air and then shot rubber bullets.

In Nablus, angry youths burned tyres in the streets and hurled rocks at soldiers, reporters said. An unknown number of Palestinians were wounded when the troops opened fire to quell the demonstration, they added.

Witnesses said the army used helicopters and spotter planes to drop tear gas and, in one case, stones on the protesters.

In Jabalya troops stormed a U.N. clinic after being stoned from inside the compound.

Near the Gaza headquarters of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), soldiers took cover behind trees and around street corners, firing intermittently at a large crowd of stone-

throwers. Police said the Israeli who carried out the killings early Sunday was "mentally deranged." However, subsequent police statements contradicted the theory.

Israeli Police Commissioner Yehor Turner said the suspect had been discharged after brief army service and had stolen the gun and uniform from his brother.

Turner said suspect claimed his motive was "disappointment over love," but police were investigating other motives, including political ones.

Photographers said pools of blood stained the road at the shooting scene. Investigators sifted through the belongings of the casualties gathering them in plastic bags.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) called for an urgent session of the U.N. Security Council to discuss the massacre. Jordan, Egypt and the Arab League condemned the attack and Palestinian movements called for vengeance.

"This incident has rekindled the fire of the intifada," an Israeli official in Gaza said.

"It is like the car accidents which started the uprising," he said in a reference to killing of four Palestinians in the Gaza Strip Dec. 8, 1987.

Palestinian leaders in Arab Jerusalem called a three-day general strike in protest and 50 leading activists announced they were starting an indefinite hunger strike to demand U.N. action to protect Arabs in the occupation zone.

"We will not sit still while they kill us like this. Whatever happens will be their responsibility, not ours," senior nationalist leader Faisal Al Hussein said.

In Cairo, Nabil Sheath, political adviser to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, announced the group's call for a U.N. debate. "We are demanding that an international team of investigators travel to the occupied territories immediately," he told a news conference.

Sheath said the attack was a direct result of what he called an Israeli campaign to whip up hatred of Arabs, citing the desecration of a Jewish cemetery in Israel for which Jewish extremists have been blamed.

Egypt said the killing was a result of Israel's failure to commit itself to negotiations with Palestinians.

"Fighters of the Palestinian revolution should hit Israeli targets inside and outside the occupied territories," said Abdul-Hadi Naashah, spokesman for Fatah uprising based in Syria.

A spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) urged Palestinians to attack Jewish soldiers and settlers. "This massacre is part of the Israeli campaign against our people," the spokesman said in Damascus.

Arab League Secretary General Chadi Khbi called the killing barbaric and said it showed the need for a total Israeli withdrawal from the occupied territories.

"The total elimination of the Israeli presence in the occupied areas is now vital for the protection of Palestinians and the peace and security of the Middle East," Khaba said in Tunis.

Israeli leaders were quick to condemn the incident. President Chaim Herzog said in a statement: "Every person and the entire nation should and are shocked by acts of lunacy such as these."

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir told a cabinet meeting: "What occurred was a shocking act of madness

that we cannot allow to happen among us."

The PLO also made a formal protest to the United States Sunday, holding the American government responsible for "Israeli genocide operations" against Palestinians, the Palestinian news agency Wafa reported.

The PLO's permanent representative to Tunisia Hakam Babsou submitted the protest note to the U.S. embassy, the agency said.

The PLO has said that the shooting was premeditated, with Israeli soldiers carrying out identity checks first to make sure no Israelis would be hurt.

"This bloody attack was committed by Israeli soldiers who first did an identity check to make sure there were no Israelis in the group of Palestinian workers targeted," said a statement signed by Bassam Abu Sharif, aide to Arafat.

Arafat also called on Palestinians to demonstrate in "every village, every city and every camp" in the occupied territories following Sunday's shooting, Wafa reported.

Arafat said the Palestinian people should "impose their law in their own country by defying the fascist (Israeli) military order and organising demonstrations and marches in every village, every city and every camp of the Israeli-occupied territory," Wafa reported.

Wafa said he urged Palestinians to make the flare-up of violence in the Gaza Strip a "demonstration of Palestinian unity and one of the main aspects of the intifada."

Iraq to invite Syria to summit

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said Sunday President Saddam Hussein would send an envoy to Damascus to invite Syrian President Hafez Al Assad to the Arab summit in Baghdad May 28.

The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Hussein took the decision after a telephone conversation with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak Sunday. It did not elaborate and did not say when the envoy would leave for Syria.

The announcement marked a major step by Hussein to end his long-running feud with Assad, who has refused to attend the

Baghdad session. A senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official met Syrian leaders in Damascus Sunday for talks apparently aimed at persuading Syria to attend the summit, Palestinian and Arab diplomats reported.

The sources, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Hani Al Hassan, political and security adviser to PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat, arrived without fanfare in the Syrian capital Saturday. The PLO and the Syrians have not officially announced the visit by Hassan, who is also a member of the

Central Committee of Fateh, the biggest guerrilla group in the PLO. Hassan is the highest ranking PLO official to visit Syria in more than two years.

He accompanied Arafat when the PLO chairman visited Damascus April 24, 1988, in an abortive attempt to end a feud with Assad triggered by a mutiny by Palestinian hardliners in 1983.

The sources gave no details of Hassan's talks or of the nature of his mission. Arafat said in Algiers Wednesday he hoped Algerian President Chadli Benjedid would persuade Assad to attend the summit.

Assad has insisted that the summit venue and agenda must first be discussed at an emergency meeting of foreign ministers of the 22-member Arab League in Tunisia.

But Iraq has said the summit will go ahead as planned in Baghdad, preceded May 22 by a foreign ministers meeting to set the agenda.

Arab panel meets on Lebanon

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Arab foreign ministers trying to end 15 years of civil war in Lebanon met for talks in Riyadh Sunday, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said.

The agency, monitored in Cyprus, said the ministers from Saudi Arabia, Morocco and Algeria — comprising the Arab League committee on Lebanon — discussed "various aspects of the Lebanese crisis and current developments in Lebanon."

It said Lakhadar Ibrahim, the Arab League's envoy to Lebanon, and the Moroccan and Algerian ambassadors to Saudi Arabia also attended the meeting.

The committee will submit a report to an Arab summit opening in Baghdad May 28.

Amal-Hizbollah battles In Beirut, Syrian troops moved

in Sunday to halt street battles between rival Shiite Muslim factions in which at least three people were killed and 25 wounded.

Police said Syrian officers with bulldozers moved through the battle-scarred districts of Bourj Abu Haidar, Mossaibeth and Nuwairi warning that they have orders to shoot to kill anyone threatening security.

Soldiers with automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenades jammed the streets where fighting raged for 11 hours from dusk Saturday to shortly before dawn Sunday.

The fighters, from the fundamentalist Iranian-backed Hizbollah, and the pro-Syrian Amal militia battled with jeep-mounted cannons, rocket-propelled grenades and automatic weapons.

The Syrians Sunday encountered no resistance when they moved through the deserted streets, flattening earth barricades and dismantling sandbagged positions used by both sides.

In East Beirut and the Christian hinterland north of the capital, police reported that sporadic sniping marred a two-day-old lull in fighting between Mibael Aoun's troops and Christian warlord Samir Geagea's Lebanese Forces militia.

No casualties were reported in the enclave, where the rival factions have been fighting since Jan. 30 for control of the enclave.

At least 1,031 people have been killed and 2,769 wounded in the showdown, which has so far failed to produce a clear-cut victor.

Mandela steps up pressure on Pretoria

CAIRO (Agencies) — Black nationalist Nelson Mandela is trying to wrest the political initiative from South Africa's white rulers by offering a truce in his followers' armed struggle if Pretoria takes solid steps to dismantle apartheid.

On arrival in Egypt Saturday evening, Mandela threw down his challenge to South African President F.W. de Klerk.

"We are prepared to consider a cessation of hostilities, not the end of the armed struggle. We are prepared to consider a truce," Mandela said.

For the African National Congress (ANC), the main black opposition group of which Mandela is the vice-president, the bedrock of its negotiations with Pretoria for a non-racial, democratic South Africa is its ability to wage guerrilla war.

Mandela arrived here Saturday on a two-day official visit to brief President Hosni Mubarak on efforts to dismantle racial segregation in his country.

The ANC leader was expected to thank Mubarak, who is the current chairman of the Organisation of African Unity, for Egypt's help in winning his release.

While in Cairo, Mandela was also to meet with Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat

Romanians crowd to vote

BUCHAREST (AP) — Romanians crowded voting stations Sunday for free elections, formally ending 44 years of communist rule.

part monopoly in their country and charting a course for its entry into a market economy.

Lines of 200 people or more snaked out of voting centres on the clear, windy day. The 16 million registered voters were choosing a president and 506 representatives to the two-chamber parliament.

Among the early voters were Interim President Ion Iliescu, the frontrunner in the three-way presidential contest, and the three children of executed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, who are

awaiting trial on charges of complicity with their father's government.

"I am voting for the first time in free Romania," said Ioan Hurmuzachi, 67, waiting outside a Bucharest polling centre. "I voted in the past under Ceausescu, but it was very clear it was not real voting."

"We don't care which candidates for president are elected, we just want the communists defeated," said Margareta Paraschiv, 53, in Bucharest, adding that she considered Iliescu a communist.

Officials delayed the closure of polling stations after it became clear that all Romanians could

not cast their votes by the 11 p.m. (2000GMT) deadline.

The central electoral bureau said in a statement all voters waiting at polling booths at the scheduled closing time would be allowed to cast their votes.

In Bucharest, thousands of people were queuing outside polling stations at 8 p.m. (1700 GMT). Some voters said they had waited up to five-and-a-half hours to vote.

More than 80 parties ran candidates for parliament, but only half a dozen parties were considered likely to win seats under the proportional representation system.

Radical Afghans threaten relief groups

PESHAWAR (AP) — Humanitarian aid groups were attacked for the second time in less than a month by anti-Western Muslim fundamentalists worried about a superpower settlement of the war in Afghanistan, officials said Sunday.

Shelter Now International, financed by Christian groups to coordinate reconstruction projects and provide aid to widows and children in Afghanistan, said it was considering shutting down its operation following the attack, in which a security guard was beaten and supplies destroyed.

Also, a relief group financed by the Austrian government reported that its office was ransacked, vehicles and documents stolen, and workers threatened with death, officials said.

No one claimed responsibility for either attack. But officials and Western diplomats blamed radical youth groups linked in Hezb-I-Islami, or Party of God, the most anti-Western of seven resistance parties, for a rash of attacks and threats against the 135 private relief organisations headquartered in Peshawar.

A spokesman for Hezb-I-Islami's leader, Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, labelled the allegations "slandorous propaganda for refusing to obey Western dictates."

Diplomats said the violence has escalated as frustrations increased at the guerrillas' inability to remove the Communist-style government in Afghanistan and with frequent reports that the United States and the Soviet Union are close to an agreement that would end the bloody stalemate and sideline the fundamentalist groups.

"These guys think the West is selling them out and they've found a convenient stick to pick up and beat. And now that they're getting a response, the attacks will probably become more frequent," said one Western diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The guerrillas' government-in-exile, reeling from deep divisions and internal feuds, has been silent about the attacks. Relief organisations are threatening to close unless the Pakistani govern-

ment guarantees their protection. The attacks started in late April at the huge Nasir Bagh Refugee Camp about 15 kilometres outside Peshawar. About 5,000 Muslim fundamentalists urged on by religious clerics attacked several projects run by Shelter Now International.

The organisation was attacked again Saturday at a small village in Afghanistan's Nangarhar province.

About 100 Afghans shouting "down with foreigners" and "death to Afghans who work for foreigners" attacked a 3-month-old reconstruction project partially funded by the United Nations High Commission for Refugees, said project coordinator Mike Hall. He said the attackers badly beat a security guard and destroyed 150 bags of concrete, 12 tons of wheat and a tractor-trailer.

Hall said another security guard escaped to a nearby camp of guerrillas who had promised to protect the project. The guerrillas, belonging to a rival faction of Hezb-I-Islami, offered the guard sanctuary but refused to try to stop the attack, he said.

"We're afraid to send anyone in to check it out," Hall said. Other relief agencies claimed that Shelter Now workers prompted the attacks by distributing Bibles and religious material and trying to convert Muslim Afghans. Shelter Now officials denied the allegations.

On Thursday and Friday nights, gunmen nerved four security guards at the headquarters of the Austrian Relief Committee, cut the telephone lines, ransacked the offices and stole numerous documents and two vehicles, officials said.

They also left behind a Hezb-I-Islami newspaper and wrote "the same thing will happen to you" beside the names of two people

who had been assassinated.

Angry mobs also tried to storm the International Medical Corp. Hospital recently but fled when armed security guards fired into the air, officials said. Attack on relief workers who cross from Pakistan into Afghanistan have increased in the past month, they said.

Tension is palpable in this frontier town, which has served as the staging arena for the seven guerrilla groups trying to overthrow the government of Afghan President Najibullah.

Muslim fundamentalists who once vented their fury at the Soviet army during its nine-year intervention are now targeting Western aid workers and Afghan refugees who work for them.

"Hate USA" is painted on streets and buildings, and letters circulating through the refugee camps around Peshawar warn of Western corruption in the refugee camps and threaten women who work in their relief programmes.

While citing safety concerns, many relief workers say they fear that weapons stockpiled in the refugee camps may be turned on them if agencies shut down.

"There has been an enormous increase in attacks on aid projects, ransacks and it's getting worse," said one worker for British-funded Afghanistan, the second largest private relief group in Peshawar.

"These guys are highly armed and the (guerrilla) commanders can no longer guarantee our security inside Afghanistan," said the worker, insisting on anonymity. "There are more people in serious need of help now than in the last six years, and the barriers of irresponsible elements keeping us from getting through are bigger and tougher and wider than ever before."

In a separate development, Afghan guerrillas claimed Saturday they shot down a government jetfighter and seized a large cache of weapons in fighting outside the arid southern city of Kandahar.

Kandahar is a stronghold of Afghanistan's monarchists, who are pushing for the return of the former king, now living in exile outside Rome.

Ethiopian forces attack rebels near Asmara

ADDIS ABABA (R) — Ethiopian forces have attacked and destroyed rebel forces who were shelling the airport of Asmara, capital of the northern Eritrean province, the official Ethiopian News Agency (ENA) reported Sunday.

Asmara has been under siege since the Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF) captured the Red Sea port Massawa in February and cut the 100 kilometre highway linking the cities.

The ENA said what it called the rebel attempt to dismember Ethiopia had been "defused" and their forces destroyed.

It added that the Ethiopian army and local militia were engaged in a fierce struggle against the combined forces of the EPLF and the Tigra People's Liberation Front (TPLF) around Massawa and in southern Eritrea.

The agency gave no details of the fighting, but the EPLF said last week that its forces were shelling Asmara as fierce fighting raged on a front 30 kilometres from the city.

The ENA said the two rebel groups had joined to attack government forces with the aim of dividing Ethiopia. The attacks on Asmara airport were also meant to block an airlift of relief food to famine victims in the region, it said.

Since the loss of Massawa, Asmara has been dependent on airborne supplies for its population of about a million civilians and 100,000 troops.

Ethiopia has appealed for international funds to finance a large-scale airlift for an estimated four million famine victims in the north.

In a warning telexed to Reuters in Nairobi, the EPLF told the Soviet Union to keep its ships away from Red Sea areas held by the EPLF.

The warning follows an attack by EPLF gunboats last week on a Soviet tanker in the Red Sea. The Soviet Union said Friday it would defend its ships in the area.

Ethiopia famine averted, for now

By Reid G. Miller
The Associated Press

MASSAWA, Ethiopia — A huge, disparate and partly obscure relief effort appears to have temporarily averted the threat of famine in northern Ethiopia this year.

But if the apocalyptic horseman has been stayed from a sweep across the barren mountains and highlands of this war-torn and drought-stricken land, his specter lingers on.

Seven months ago, the United Nations warned that more than 4 million people were at risk of dying from hunger in Ethiopia's four northern provinces — Eritrea, Tigre, Wollo and Gondar.

The threat was compared with the great famine of 1984-85, which killed more than a million people in the same region and raised the consciousness of the world.

Ghastly, haunting images of skeletal children flickered across TV screens on every continent as the famine deepened six years ago. The pictures prompted a huge but belated flow of aid, too late to help many starving people but averting an even greater calamity.

This year the response came quickly, albeit with less fanfare.

As soon as it became apparent in late 1989 that the annual rains had failed once more and harvest fields were turning into parched plots, the United Nations, individual governments, private relief agencies and others began gearing up.

The others included emergency food distribution organisations operated by separate insurgent forces in Eritrea and Tigre that are waging civil wars against the government in those provinces.

"The situation is very tenuous and fragile, but things look very good right now," said Paul Mitchell, a spokesman for the U.N.'s World Food Programme, based in Rome. "I would add, however, that there's no room for complacency."

Mitchell was interviewed recently in Nairobi, Kenya, following an inspection trip to Ethiopia. His agency is responsible for getting surplus food, donated primarily by Western nations, to drought and disaster areas around the world.

Mitchell's assessment was borne out by visits to Eritrea and Tigre, the two most seriously affected provinces, by this and other reporters in recent weeks. None found severe malnutrition or the great migrations of people in search of food that occurred six years ago.

"No, we haven't reached that point," said Tekie Beyene, who heads the Eritrean Relief Association, an arm of the rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front (EPLF). "It's been so far, so good. The problem will come if we don't continue receiving the same level of aid."

Direct aid to the Eritrean and Tigrean rebels is channelled through a variety of private relief organisations. Much of it comes in the form of surplus wheat from the United States and Canada — but Washington, particularly, keeps its involvement quiet, so as not to antagonise the Ethiopian government.

In addition to the U.S. and Canada, several European nations donate surplus grain and other foods to the World Food Programme for distribution by a consortium of Ethiopian churches operating with the blessing of the government in Addis Ababa and the Tigrean rebels.

The Eritrean and Tigrean rebels take delivery of food at Port Sudan on the Red Sea and haul it by truck across the Ethiopian border over long, tortuous routes that range from desert trails to steep, winding mountain paths. Dozens of distribution points have been set up in each province, some accessible only by pack animals.

The Ethiopian government has strenuously objected to these cross-border operations, but hasn't been able to halt them. Relief trucks move only at night to avoid strafing and bombing by the Ethiopian Air Force, which considers the vehicles to be possible carriers of rebel munitions.

The church group operating out of Addis Ababa with the support of the United Nations maintains what is known as the "southern relief corridor." It starts in the town of Dessie, 320 kilometres north of the capital, and runs another 320 kilometres north to Makele, the provincial capital of Tigre.

It employs some 11,000 Ethiopians, operates 350 trucks virtually around the clock and is described by Mitchell as "a magnificent operation, very efficient."

The Eritrean and Tigrean relief operations are smaller but no less efficient. They move an estimated 30,000 tonnes of food each month directly into the famine areas from neighbouring Sudan.

But the relief operations have a more serious problem.

The United Nations initially demanded a major role in food distribution from Addis Ababa. The government refused, insisting that it be handled by the church consortium. Then came a



Eritrean refugees head for Sudan

further delay as the church group, known as the Joint Relief Partnership, negotiated with both the government and the Tigrean rebels for permission to move supplies through their lines. The southern corridor was opened only last month.

There also were the usual political considerations. The United Nations, as an organisation of recognised governments, could not involve itself with the insurgents. The United States, Canada and others quietly arranged to help the rebels, but only through private third parties.

Another blow came in early February, when the Eritrean rebels launched the largest offensive of their 29-year-old war for independence and quickly captured Massawa, one of only two Ethiopian ports on the Red Sea and a major distribution point for donated food.

That left some 120,000 Ethiopian soldiers and an estimated one million civilian in and around the Eritrean provincial capital of

Asmara cut off from the rest of the country and facing starvation. They have been without running water and electricity ever since.

The port is still closed and fighting continues to rage on a massive scale around Asmara, but on May 3 the United Nations Children's Fund began an airlift to the provincial capital with plans to fly in 30 plane-loads of food, medicine and other supplies within three months.

If all goes well, the Ethiopian, Eritrean and Tigrean operations will deliver more than one million tonnes of food and other supplies before September, when the next harvest is due to begin. It will cost an estimated \$300 million.

"If we can keep this up, we'll be okay," said one relief worker, referring to the overall effort. "But we live with the fear that our work to save civilians can become secondary to the strategic or tactical concerns of the combatants at any time. It has happened before. It can happen again."

Iran blames Riyadh for blocking progress in pilgrimage talks

NICOSIA (R) — Iran has confirmed it held talks with Saudi Arabia to try to end a dispute over the annual Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca but accused Riyadh of blocking a solution.

"To show our goodwill we sent a delegation to Saudi Arabia in an attempt to remove the hurdle in the way of sending pilgrims," Iran's News Agency (IRNA)

Saturday quoted Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Mohammad Khatami as saying, "The Saudis stuck to their previous policy and blocked a solution to the problem," Khatami said.

He said direct and indirect talks had been held but gave no other details. Gulf-based diplomats earlier said First Deputy

Foreign Minister Ali Mohammad Besharati met Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud Al Faisal in Riyadh Monday and Tuesday.

The meeting was the first known diplomatic contact between the two states since Riyadh cut ties in April 1988.

Iran has boycotted the pilgrimage to Mecca and Medina since

Moroccan government defeats no confidence motion

RABAT (R) — The first motion of no confidence in the Moroccan government in 26 years was defeated by 200 votes to 83 after a stormy all-night parliamentary session.

With four pro-government parties having an absolute majority in the Chamber of Representatives the rejection of the censure motion Sunday was expected.

The motion said there were numerous human rights abuses in Morocco and the administration was rotten, wasteful, and plagued by "the gangrene of corruption."

Party leaders on both sides of the chamber said they expected King Hassan to change the government.

The opposition old-guard Istiqlal Party, its offshoot the Socialist Union of People's Forces, the Communist Party of Progress and Socialism, and the leftist Democratic Organisation of Popular Action buried their differences to table the motion.

If it had been passed, Prime Minister Azeddine Laraki's government would have been forced to resign.

MIDDLE EAST NEWS BRIEFS

Three escape from Israeli prison

TEL AVIV (R) — Troops using helicopters and dogs searched the occupied West Bank for three people who escaped from a high-security prison in central Israel Sunday, army and Arab sources said. The army described the escapees from Megiddo jail as "security prisoners," a term used for Palestinians detained for anti-Israeli acts. Palestinians said security forces with bloodhounds, military vehicles and helicopters were searching the northern West Bank town of Jenin and surrounding villages.

Death sought for Kuwait bombers

KUWAIT (R) — Prosecutors have demanded the death penalty for four people accused of trying to overthrow the Kuwaiti government with a bombing campaign which killed several people, court sources said Sunday. They said the demand was made Saturday when the trial, which opened on May 12, resumed behind closed doors in a state security court. Two officials from the London-based human rights group Amnesty International attended the hearing, the sources added. They said the trial was adjourned until May 28 when defence lawyers would make submissions. A verdict was expected soon afterwards. Sayed Muhammad Baqir Al Mosaawi (alias Al Muhri), Faisal Abdul Hadi Al Mehmied, Walid Majid Al Mazzezi and Abdul Hamid Al Saffar were arrested last year. They were indicted on 10 counts. Several bomb attacks, some fatal, have been reported in the Gulf Arab state since late in 1983. The Emir of Kuwait, Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Sabah, survived an assassination attempt in 1985.

Yemens to unite in days

SANAA (R) — North Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh confirmed that his country will unite with South Yemen within days. "Unification of the (two) Yemens is coming in a few days... perhaps before the end of this month," President Saleh said on television. "All preparations have been completed," he added Saturday in the first official confirmation that the merger is imminent. Officials have indicated unification will be proclaimed on May 27, but an Arab summit set for May 28 appears to have upset the plan and the date is now expected to be moved a few days either way. Saleh said a united Yemen would be a source of stability for the Arabian peninsula and the Gulf. He has called a special meeting of the North Yemeni parliament for Monday.

Qatari court upholds nurse's sentence

MANAMA, Bahrain (AP) — Qatar's appeal court Sunday upheld a two-month prison sentence against British nurse Valerie Coakes for wilfully harming a bedouin infant's virginity. But the court suspended the sentence for three years. Mrs. Coakes, 49, from Manchester, England, was also fined 500 rials (\$137) in the case brought against her by the child's parents last June when she worked at the Hamad Medical Corp. Hospital in Qatar. "It's a bit of a strange outcome," Coakes told the Associated Press in Bahrain in a telephone interview. "I'm not very happy with the verdict. She said she was concerned that the sentence, even if suspended, could affect her nursing career in England."

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Jordan-India Friendship Society invites all who are interested in joining the society to submit their application form to the society as soon as possible.

The forms could be obtained from the office of the cultural attache in the Indian embassy, Jabal Amman, Tel. 637262, or the General Union of Voluntary Societies, Jabal Luweibdeh Tel. 634001 - 634009.

The application form will be received no later than fifteen days from the announcement, which will be followed with the annual meeting of the General Assembly of the Society.

Executive Committee

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE
15:30 Koran
15:40 Programme review
15:45 Children programmes
15:50 News summary in Arabic
16:00 World News
16:10 Local programme
16:20 Programme review
16:30 News in Arabic
16:40 Arabic series
16:50 Programme review
17:00 Local programmes
17:10 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Documentary
18:10 News in French
18:15 Weekly Sport magazine
18:30 News in Hebrew
18:45 Varieties
19:00 Perfect Strangers
19:10 FIFA Soccer
19:20 News in English
19:30 The Ginger Tree

PRAYER TIMES

04:00 Fajr
05:30 (Sunrise) Duha
12:30 Dhuhur
16:13 'Asr
19:34 Maghreb
21:04 Isha

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swifich Tel. 810740
Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 632785
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757
Teremonte Church Tel. 622366
Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541
Anglican Church Tel. 625383
625433
Armenian Catholic Church Tel. 771331
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 772561
Syrian Orthodox Church Tel. 771751
Assam International Church Tel. 685326
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 611295
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817, 65-932.

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Slight drop in temperatures will occur and winds will be northwesterly moderate to fresh, causing dust in the eastern and southern regions of the Kingdom. In Aqaba, it will be dusty and sea choppy.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Issam Hawamdeh 624830
Dr. Issam Al Ghamaki 679666
Dr. Fayez Jalouja 624207
Dr. Khaled Ma'add 743300
First pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Aziza pharmacy 637055
Nairoudi pharmacy 625672
Al Solana pharmacy 636730
Yacoubi pharmacy 644945
Shmeisani pharmacy 637660

IRABD:
Dr. Ali Al Samman (—)
Al Shara'a pharmacy 985238

ZARQA:
Dr. Muna Odeh (—)

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111
Civil Defence Immediate 630341
Rescue Police 192, 631111, 637777
Fire Brigade 891228
Blood Bank 775121
Highway Police 834402
Traffic Police 896390
Public Security Department 630321
Hotel Complaints 605800
Police Complaints 661176
Water and Sewerage 897467

COMPLAINTS

Amman Municipality 787111
Complaints 121
Overseas Calls 010230
Central Amman Telephone 623101
Repairs 623101
Jordan Telephone Repairs 661101
Abdali Telephone Repairs 771111
Radio Jordan 774111
Water Authority 660100
Jordan Electricity Authority 815615
Electric Power

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32
Khalid Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Al-Balqa Maternity, J. Amn 643412
Fateh Amman Maternity 642362
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664171/4
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845484
Al-Muasher Hospital 667227/9
The Islamic, Abdali 666127/7
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muasher 77101/3
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511/26
Army, Marika 89161/1/5
Queen Abla Hospital 622405/8
Amal Hospital 674155
ZARQA:
Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
IRABD:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275555
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272775
Ibn Al Nafies Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (08)3200-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)
18:00 Agaba (RJ)
18:10 Vienna, Frankfurt (RJ)
18:20 Moscow, New York (RJ)
18:30 Istanbul (RJ)
18:45 Cairo (RJ)
18:50 Kuwait, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
19:00 Jeddah (RJ)
19:10 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
19:15 Riyadh (RJ)
19:20 Agaba (RJ)
19:30 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
19:45 Doha, Bahrain (RJ)
19:50 Kuwait (RJ)
19:55 Cairo (RJ)
20:00 Istanbul (RJ)
20:10 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
20:15 London (RJ)
20:20 Calcutta, Bangkok (RJ)

Other Flights (Terminal 2)

09:55 Baghdad (IA)
10:20 Sanaa (LH)

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower prices in Jds per kg

Apple 600 / 500

Banana 500 / 450

Cucumber (large) 450 / 300

Beans 220 / 180

Broad beans 350 / 300

Cabbage 90 / 60

Carrot 140 / 80

Cauliflower 250 / 200

Cauliflower (large) 220 / 180

Dates 400 / 320

Eggplant 160 / 120

Garlic 350 / 300

Onion (dry) 120 / 100

Onion (green) 200 / 150

Orange 300 / 250

Orange (Shamouni) 450 / 400

Pepper (hot) 180 / 120

Pepper (sweet) 200 / 140

Potato 300 / 250

Radish 150 / 100

Sage 400 / 300

Spinach 220 / 160

Tomatoes 180 / 140

Watermelon 280 / 200

Seminar on Arab economic integration calls for close unity

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day regional seminar organised by the Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU), which opened here Sunday, heard calls for steps towards economic integration among Arab countries to face the challenges of the new decade and the coming 21st century.

Speakers urged closer cooperation among the Arab economic blocs and called for further efforts to end the numerous obstacles plaguing the Arab World.

Minister of Industry and Trade Ziad Faraj, who deputised for His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hussein, told the opening session that the Arab World was witnessing continued decline in food production, lack of modern technology and was suffering from inadequate military and food security.

"The Arab World requires \$20 billion in annual investments if it aims at achieving real development that can ensure the present per capita income," the minister said.

"The Arab World's population is now nearing 300 million of whom 125 million are under 15

years of age which means that the coming century will witness a growing increase in demand on basic education, health services, housing and food and water supplies, the minister said.

He said there was no alternative but to pool the Arab World's resources to meet the coming challenge.

Referring to education, he said, by the year 2000 the Arab World would have to spend \$60 billion on educating nearly 70 million students at all levels, but at the same time the Arab countries have to find ways of linking education with the needs of society to make it possible find work for the increasing number of graduates.

Economists from Arab countries, regional and international organisations are attending the seminar on development in the Arab World and scopes of Arab economic integration.

According to CAEU sources, seven working papers are to be reviewed by the participants.

"Nearly 90 per cent of surplus Arab funds, estimated at \$70 billion, are now deposited outside

the Arab World at a time when many citizens are deprived of basic rights and fair and equal opportunities while the enemies of the Arab World continue to occupy Arab land and hatch conspiracies to impose hegemony on the Arab Nation," Faraj told the audience.

Another speaker was CAEU Secretary General Hassan Ibrahim, who reviewed joint economic and social conditions in the Arab World since the mid-1980s, pointing to the economic recession, the decline in income from oil wealth and the debts which burden most of the Arab countries.

"Only through closer coordination of work in social and economic fields can the Arab World overcome the present issues and deal with challenges that confront it in the coming century," said Ibrahim.

He said the present seminar aimed at focusing light on these issues and offered the opportunity for the participants to exchange view on pressing economic issues facing the Arab Nation.

Meeting stresses role of women in society

CAIRO (Petra) — Developments in the Arab region over the past years made it incumbent on the women of the Arab World to contribute more positively towards the social and economic development of their countries, Her Royal Highness Princess Basma said here Sunday.

Addressing the opening session of a three-day regional conference on social and economic challenges posed to the Arab region in the 1990s and Arab women's participation in the development process, the Princess said that Arab women have so far contributed most positively towards the improvement of their societies.

"But the Arab region is facing bigger challenges now, calling for better employment of material,

financial as well as human resources and involving women on a larger scale," the Princess said.

Princess Basma, who is attending the conference in her capacity as chairperson of the board of trustees of the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF), which caters for women and rural communities in Jordan, said there is a great need now to give attention to women in rural regions; these women, she said, can help ensure food security for the Arab World.

"Protecting Arab women's rights can only be achieved through allowing women to play a more meaningful role in social and economic development," the Princess said.

Specialists in women affairs from 15 Arab states, including



Jordan, are taking part in the conference along with representatives of various Arab and international organisations.

Several working papers are to be reviewed by the conference which was officially opened by Egyptian president's wife Suzanne Mubarak.

Jordan to take part in Tunis fair

TUNIS (J.T.) — Nearly 120 Jordanian industrial companies and firms will take part in a Jordanian industrial fair which will open in Tunis on May 25, according to an announcement by Jordan's Ambassador in Tunis Talal Al Hassan.

"The fair will display samples of national industrial products like electrical appliances, furniture, leather and plastic products, foodstuff, pharmaceutical products, textiles and handicrafts," the ambassador said.

"The fair, the fifth of its kind to be held in Tunis, will open as the Kingdom celebrates its independence anniversary; thus it will demonstrate the country's development in various fields," the ambassador added.

Al Hassan said the Jordanian

fair comes after a Tunisian fair held in Amman in April under a bilateral agreement which provides for Jordan and Tunisia to organise trade fairs in each other's capital to promote the sale of national products.

Jordan and Tunisia last November reached an agreement under which they fixed the volume of commercial exchange at \$40 million including \$20 million for trade centres in Amman and Tunisia, \$5 million for commercial markets and \$15 million for free trade dealings.

Meanwhile in Irbid a Jordanian industrial fair will open on May 25 under the patronage of His Majesty King Hussein, according to officials at the Amman Chamber of Industry which is organis-

ing the exhibition at Yarmouk University.

New industrial products will be displayed including samples of export products.

Officials said that 129 Jordanian industrial firms and factories will take part in the exhibition to be set up on a 2,000-square metre land within the Yarmouk University campus.

The exhibition in Yarmouk will be in observance of Jordan's independence anniversary on May 25, the officials said. They added that on King Hussein's accession to the throne anniversary, which falls on August 11, another fair would be held in the southern city of Maan and a third would be held in Zarqa on Nov. 14, the King's birthday.

King receives message from Sudanese leader

AMMAN (Petra) — Efforts by Sudan and Libya to achieve unity are considered a first step towards achieving a pan-Arab unity, according to a Sudanese envoy who delivered a message to His Majesty King Hussein Saturday.

The envoy, Faisal Abu Saleh, who is member of the Revolutionary Command Council in Sudan, said that current efforts to achieve unity between Sudan and Libya do not by any way interfere with the existing Arab economic blocs, but would rather help con-

tribute towards the creation of a total unity in the Arab World.

The envoy, who was making a statement upon his departure following a two-day visit to Jordan, said that the message he delivered to King Hussein from Sudanese leader Omar Hassan Al Bashir dealt with the situation in Sudan and with the current efforts to unite Sudan and Libya.

The envoy was seen off at the airport by deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior Salem Masaadeh and other officials.

Meteorology services important for socio-economic development - Abanda

AMMAN (Petra) — Directors of the meteorology departments in the four-state Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) — Jordan, Iraq, Egypt and North Yemen — Sunday met in Amman to discuss means of implementing the meteorology agreement concluded during the ACC summit in Amman earlier this year.

Addressing the meeting, Meteorology Department Director Ali Abanda said that meteorology services have great impact on air and maritime navigation as well as transport, agriculture and tourism, thus affecting all aspects of the socio-economic development process.

Abanda pointed out that the meteorology agreement, concluded in Amman in February,

called for the exchange of information and expertise and sought to unify systems, regulations and technical specifications.

Abanda outlined the great dangers inherent in the climatic changes and the erosion of the ozone layer saying that they endanger life on our planet.

He stressed the need for exchanging information on the factors affecting the ozone layer and the projected climate changes.

Abanda pointed out to the importance of coming up with a unified position at the international level, such as the World Meteorology Organisation (WMO), the International Civil Aviation Association and the United Nations Environmental Programme.

Farmers federation to help agriculture, stabilise prices

AMMAN (Petra) — One of the main reasons for creating the projected Jordanian Farmers Federation (JFF) is to unify the work of credit organisations in Jordan and organise the process of money lending, Minister of Agriculture Sleiman Arabiyat said Sunday.

"Loans to farmers used to be channelled through the Agricultural Credit Corporation (ACC), the Jordan Cooperative Organisation (JCO) and the Jordan Valley Farmers Association (JVFA), which rendered the credit and money lending process chaotic and burdened the farmers who obtained loans from more than one source," Arabiyat said in an exclusive interview with the Jordan News Agency, Petra.

The minister said that Jordanian farmers have debts of almost JD 45 million-benefiting 12,000 farmers. Of these JD 31.2 million were given by the ACC; only 50 per cent of this sum is usually paid back; JD 13.4 million were given by JCO of which only 10 per cent is settled and JD 1 million by the JVFA of which only 10 per cent is repaid.

"The minister pointed out that the ministry was helping to organise a restructuring of the farmers' debts to help them settle their debts, but it was hoped that the JFF would later handle this process as well as the credit procedure.

Referring to the soaring prices of vegetables and fruits in Jordan, the minister said that climatic conditions, certain diseases and viruses which affected the crops and other technical matters — like the lack of sufficient amounts of water supplies — were partly responsible for the increase in prices.

He said Jordan should continue to supply foreign importers with agricultural products to earn the Kingdom badly needed hard currency and not to lose the traditional markets importing Jordanian products.

The minister said that Jordan's present rate of agricultural exports earns the country JD 120 million annually, up from JD 40 million in the past years. He added that the projected JFF is bound to stabilise prices simply because it would be responsible

for agricultural inputs like fertilisers, machinery and pesticides, much of which is imported, and for a general policy of prices.

According to Arabiyat the JFF will collect a toll of one per cent on all agricultural products and live animals imported by Jordan so as to help finance its operations and help local farmers produce more.

"In short the JFF will provide farmers with requirements for farming and will act to stabilise the prices of agricultural products," the minister added.

The minister said the Ministry of Agriculture was bent on creating the largest possible pasture land, carrying out afforestation projects and planting of fruit trees, creating a poultry council grouping representatives of various farms and increasing the production of poultry meat and table eggs for export.

Meeting opens on diarrheal diseases

AMMAN (Petra) — A week-long meeting on control of diarrheal diseases, organised by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Food (UNICEF) started in Amman Sunday with experts from 23 countries in the Middle East, North Africa and the east Mediterranean regions participating.

Addressing the opening session, Health Minister Mohammad Al Zaben said that Jordan had succeeded in reducing child mortality caused by diarrhea and

diarrhea-induced dehydration to one case per 1,000 children under five, down from 5 cases per 1,000 children before 1981.

Zaben lauded the efforts made by both WHO and UNICEF to reduce child mortality. The minister underlined the dangers posed by this major child killer disease.

WHO Director of the East Mediterranean Regional Office (EMRO) Hossein El Jazairi praised the achievements Jordan had made in the field of combating diarrheal diseases and said

the special efforts were made by UNICEF in this regard.

In a statement, read out on his behalf by EMRO representative in Jordan Abdul Majid Abdul Hadi, Jazairi said that despite the great achievements made on the control of diarrheal diseases some 500,000 children are still dying every year in the eastern Mediterranean region, because of diarrheal related reasons.

Jazairi called for placing control of diarrheal diseases programmes on top of national priorities.

Unique heart technique performed in Jordan

By Khalil Abdul Salam
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Three young children have recently undergone ductus arteriosus occlusion by therapeutic cardiac catheterisation using an umbrella device which is delivered to the patient ductus arteriosus. The operation was done for the first time in Jordan at Queeo Alia Heart Centre.

The operation is done without any surgery, by using a special catheter. The patient undergoing such operation can leave the hospital in 24 hours, according to Dr. Yousef Qussous, head of the QAHC's cardiac section.

Qussous attributed the occlusion of the ductus arteriosus in children to congenital heart dis-

ease. Normally the ductus arteriosus closes by itself in the second or third week after birth, which means that if it remains open for a period beyond the two or three weeks following birth it could endanger the child's health and expose him to heart failure and repeated renal ailments.

"Such congenital heart diseases are rare and the average incidence of such cases is 8 cases per 100 live births," according to Dr. Qussous.

"Dr. Qussous pointed out that doctors have treated some 500 cases in 16 years using the surgical method. He attributed such congenital heart malformations to Rubella (German measles) which mothers had during pregnancy or to the drugs women take during pregnancy.

Massacre

(Continued from page 1)

Lower House Speaker Sleiman Arab said Sunday's attack was demonstrative of the kind of peace Israel is seeking to achieve.

"Israel has killed innocent people, evicted people from their homeland and confiscated their land," he said. "Yet, it is still pressing ahead with its persistent crimes against the Palestinian people and will continue to do so until and unless it finds a power capable of putting an end to its crimes."

Members of Parliament also voiced outrage and condemnation of the killing and called on the international community to denounce Israeli practices and seek an end to the "ugly massacres" perpetrated against the Palestinian people. They also called on the Arab World to adopt a united position capable of "ending the Israeli arrogance" and to revive the Eastern Front.

The killing of eight Palestinian workers and another eight Palestinians by Israeli troops in subsequent clashes also drew heavy condemnation from all over the Arab World.

Romanians go to polls in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Romanian community in Jordan voted at the Romanian embassy here as their countrymen were voting in Romania for a president and members of the lower and upper houses of parliament.

The Romanian embassy estimated that 80 per cent of the total 600-strong Romanian community, including workers, housewives, Romanian tourists took part in the voting at the embassy in Amman which remained open until 11 in the evening to allow for as many voters as possible to participate in the first free elections in more than 50 years.

In a festive atmosphere charged with emotions the voters had the chance to cast secret ballots, for the first time in generations, not being "guided" in their choice.

Jordan Times
Tel: 667171

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

King receives French envoy
AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein Sunday received at the Royal Court the visiting French republican party chief Francois Leonard. The audience was attended by Royal Court Chief Shafiq Zeid Ben Shaker and Leonard's aides. Leonard also met with Minister of Culture Khalid Al Karaki and reviewed with him bilateral relations in the cultural and art fields.

Princess Sarvath opens art exhibition
AMMAN (Petra) — Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath opened Saturday a plastic art exhibition by Mahmoud Taha. The six-day exhibition displays pottery and ceramics. The opening ceremony was attended by several ministers.

Qatanani receives Swedish students
AMMAN (Petra) — Director General of the Foreign Ministry's Palestinian Affairs Department Ahmad Qatanani received Saturday a Swedish student delegation currently on a visit to Jordan. Qatanani briefed the delegation on the establishment of the department and the support it presents to Palestinian citizens in the occupied Arab territories.

Indian exhibition opens in Yarmouk
AMMAN (J.T.) — The Embassy of India in cooperation with the Yarmouk University has organised a photographic exhibition of Indian industry in the university premises from the 20th to 23rd May, 1990. The exhibition was inaugurated by Dr. Ali Mahafzah, president of the Yarmouk University; vice presidents of the university, the dean of the faculty and the Indian ambassador were also present. The Indian ambassador presented 20 books on Indian art and culture to the president of the university.

Jordan prepares for World Traffic Day

AMMAN (Petra) — Chairman of a special committee formed by the Public Security Department (PSD) to prepare for the World Traffic Day and the Arab Traffic Week, Colonel Awmi Mismar Sunday attended a special celebration held to honour members of the preparatory committee and winning students at a traffic drawing contest, organised on the occasion.

Col. Mismar said that Jordan had recently witnessed a decrease in the number of car accidents, compared with the past years.

Mismar called for more care and caution and stressed the need for promoting traffic awareness among school students to achieve a further reduction in fatalities. Other countries have levels, lower with 15 per cent than Jordan.

At the end of the celebration, Col. Mismar presented certificates of appreciation to the committee members and awards to winners in the competition.

ADF holds meeting

AMMAN (Petra) — The general secretariat of the Arab Doctors Federation (ADF) held a meeting Sunday under the chairmanship of ADF Secretary General Hassan Khreis to discuss the agenda of the ADF higher council meetings which will start Tuesday, the approval of the federation's general budget as well as demands by some medical Arab associations to join the federation.

The secretariat is also scheduled to discuss in its two-day meetings issues related to ADF awards which will be presented to two Arab doctors; the first will be presented to an Arab doctor distinguished in his scientific researches and the other to a doctor distinguished in his country's doctors association activities. A third award will be presented to the best research in medical science in the Arab World.

WHAT'S GOING ON EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition of paintings and sculptures by five Jordanian artists at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation (10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.)
- Art exhibition by Hussni Abu Alrayan at the Alfa Art Gallery.
- Exhibition of paintings by Randa Baroudi at Goethe Institute.
- Art exhibition by Mahmoud Taha at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Photographic exhibition of Indian industry at Yarmouk University.
- Plastic art exhibition by Mustapha Yahya at the Royal Cultural Centre.

LECTURE

- Lecture, in Arabic, entitled "The concept of wisdom in the religious tradition of the Middle East" by Linguist and Arabist Jan Henningson, the Middle East secretary of church in Sweden, at the Royal Cultural Centre — 7:00 p.m.

AMMAN - LONDON

Daily Nonstop Flights

Royal Jordanian and British Airways jointly offer nonstop service from Amman to London Heathrow.

Now available, daily, nonstop flights on board the latest technology aircraft - the Airbus A310-300. With three class service, you would leave Amman at convenient departures arriving comfortably at London Heathrow's Terminal 3.

For information and reservations please call Royal Jordanian at 679321 or your travel agent.

Except Mon and Fri until June 1, 1990

Except Mon from June 1, 1990

ROYAL JORDANIAN - الاردنية للطيران



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Halt the Israeli wind in its track

WORDS OF condemnation, no matter how strong or profound, cannot possibly express our and humanity's feelings of anger and frustration on the massacre of innocent and unarmed Palestinians yesterday. There has to be something more concrete, more substantive that the Arab World can and should do to stop the successive massacres and acts of repression and naked murder against our brethren in the occupied territories.

The Palestinian people has been paying with its blood and soul the cost of resisting Israel's occupation and continued aggression. It is about time that the rest of Arabs stood up in unison and strength to support their brothers' and sisters' struggle for liberation and salvation.

The Arab masses are fed up with the inability of their leaders to agree on an even minimum platform to help the Palestinians in their heroic intifada, which is the all encompassing embodiment and symbol of our people's struggle to free itself from the yoke of Israeli occupation and repression. But merely to dismiss the latest massacre as an isolated act by a "deranged" ex-soldier is the height of hypocrisy that none of our people could ever tolerate anymore.

Some peace activists in Israel were the first to admit following the massacre yesterday that the mass murder of Palestinians could not have taken place in isolation of the feverish Israeli policies and actions in the West Bank and Gaza in the continued Zionist drive to quell the intifada. Nor should we ever believe that Israel's repression and racist killing of Arabs will stop any time soon, certainly not before the Arabs are strong enough to realise their will. The whole political climate in Israel today, embodying basically the policies and ambitions of the extreme right and nationalist groups, will continue to be conducive to Israelis, sane or deranged, to direct their fire and mad acts against the unarmed Palestinians. And it is this climate that the Arabs have to direct all their energies at in order to halt the winds of Israeli violence in their tracks through getting the Arabs to put their act together for once and send a resounding message to Israel that it will have to pay a very heavy price for such barbarous actions as of yesterday.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i daily on Sunday warned the Arabs against the looming Israeli threat for aggression and said Arab states should not be taken in by statements issued by the Israeli prime minister's office that the Jewish state does not base its strategy on launching a pre-emptive strike on the Arabs. The paper said that the statement is designed to absorb part of the Arab vigilance and preparedness, following a recent Iraqi disclosure about Israel's plans to launch a fresh aggression on Iraq. The paper reminded its readers of similar Israeli statements issued on the eve of the 1967 aggression on the Arab countries when it announced that it would not be the first to launch attack. Israel, on the other hand, could be seriously considering the Iraqi warning and that has delayed its aggression on Arab lands, said the paper. But, it added, neither of these two possibilities should give any credence to the Israeli statements because the Arabs are now more experienced with Israeli tactics and should remain vigilant. The Israeli statement is more likely to be a move to deceive the Arabs before a surprise attack comes, and could be a move to thwart the Arab countries' intention to work out a joint strategy to deal with Israel at their upcoming summit meeting in Baghdad, the paper continued. The paper said that Israel has only one way to prove its good intentions, and that is by recognising the Palestinian people's rights in their own homeland.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily calls for specialised centres and universities to analyse the outcome of the municipal elections that took place in Zarqa in the past week. Salah Abdul Samad wonders whether the people of Zarqa have lost interest in the affairs of their city, or whether the elections were linked with political ideologies that stopped many from participating in the elections. The poor voter turnout, he says, was a sad thing for the second most populous city in the country; and the elections can best be described as elections of the minority rather than the majority. The silent majority which refrained from taking part in the elections cannot take the whole blame, and a real, serious study ought to be undertaken by specialised institutions in Jordan to determine the reasons behind this phenomenon, says the writer. He wonders whether a similar pattern will emerge at nearby Ruseifa in the municipal elections on the coming month.

Al Dustour daily commented on Prince Hassan's statements published in Al Ahran newspaper of Cairo in which he voiced optimism that the coming summit in Baghdad will serve as a turning point in Arab affairs. The paper echoed the Prince's call on the Arabs to remain vigilant and join forces to confront the common threats and dangers; and said that the Arabs can remain united and interact with world affairs at the same time. The paper echoed the Prince's optimism that, with its vast material, financial and manpower potentials, the Arab World can and should forge ahead towards the achievement of further development.

Weekly Political Pulse

Gloomy are the ill-informed

By Waleed Sadi

ON SOCIAL occasions, Jordan looks more like a family-state than a nation-state in the sense that everybody seems to be a kin of everybody else or at least knows him. So on occasions of grief or joy, it seems like the entire social fabric of the country is a participant. To be sure this is more so on condolence occasions which occur almost daily and attract a wide spectrum of the Jordanian society. Hardly a Friday passes without an occasion to express one's condolences over the untimely death of a relative, friend or acquaintance. Offering ones sympathies have thus become the hallmark of Jordanian one-day weekends. Accordingly, such social duties offer the best opportunity to measure the country's sentiment and to feel its pulse. I, as most other Jordanians caught in this web of social duties, have been having invaluable access to information about the mood of my countrymen and their views on the current state of affairs through the performance of my week-end social duties.

I must say that I walk out of condolences doubly grieved.

First at the thought of somebody being dead and secondly because of what I hear during funerals about the situation in the country. By and large, what I hear is a variety of scenarios spelling doom and gloom about the future. There is an alarming degree of despair permeating the minds and hearts of Jordanians these days and the advent of democracy and the introduction of massive corrective measures have yet to change the sentiment of Jordanians about their lot, present or future. What immediately comes to mind is that the government has yet to succeed in convincing the people that the country is finally on the right course and that the future is indeed bright and encouraging. I often ask myself if in part the problem is a mere public relations issue which the government has either neglected or failed to address in the proper way. I realise that things are not yet in the best of shape and that many things still await rectification. But as an optimist, I do not see things as black as some people keep on portraying to one another. Some times I think that Jordanians, as most other Arab peoples, are prone to believe in conspiracies and doomsday scenarios as a matter of habit and culture. Maybe Jordanians should be reminded to count their blessings as they do their ill fortunes.

Yet such explanations do not really reveal the total picture of what is really bothering Jordanians. It must be admitted at the outset that there are a multitude of problems that still haunt them that were only accorded artificial remedies. Jordanians of today are not the Jordanians of yesterday. Through access to information and improved education, they grew sophisticated enough to discern difficulties and comprehend the issues pertaining to their present and future. Gone are the days when sophistication was the monopoly of the select few. It is amazing what one hears from seemingly ordinary people whether in the form of deep analysis or well-rounded comprehension. Governing a more enlightened Jordanian is certainly a double-edged blessing. On the one hand, it is easier to deal with people of

understanding, on the other it is infinitely harder to win their hearts and minds. It is an entirely new ball game in Jordan these days and the rules of the game have to be remodelled. This is what still bothers me as I listen to the various views and counter views in the social occasions that I find myself attending these early summer days. The overwhelming reaction that I hear over and over again is that not much has changed, and that on fundamentals, the country has barely scratched the surface. A closer-to-the-truth assessment would indicate that in fact major changes have occurred in the country since 1989 but perhaps the fruits of such changes have yet to be collected. Possibly also these changes do not go far enough to remedy the ills of the past and only appear to gloss over the problems that have been unanimously identified as the sources of all evil in the country. Whatever and wherever the truth lies, I feel that the government needs to do a better job explaining itself to its people and to reach out for the disenchanted among them.

The people for example still await a more coherent response from the government on the corruption issue. They also want a more understandable response to unemployment and the rising cost of living. While there is a widespread appreciation of the International Monetary Fund's (IMF) imposed conditions, they have no sympathy since they are directed to their bread and butter needs at a time when other outlays are still left bleeding as profusely as ever before. One commentator reminded me on one of these social occasions that Turkey has won great praise from its people lately when it set a fine example for reducing the governmental expenditures by selling all the big Mercedeses that officials use in favour of much smaller cars. Such gesture may look small in macroeconomics terms but most certainly goes a long way to convince the public about the seriousness of the efforts to cut down on unnecessary expenses. Others indignantly pointed to the export policy in the agricultural domain which leaves very little for the people

to eat in order to raise the revenues of the country from exports. Some Jordanians, it is also noted, are overemployed in the sense that they hold more than one job, while others are left with no job possibilities whatsoever. There could be enough jobs to go around, it is maintained, if Jordanians were asked to uphold the principle of one-job at a time in order to help their countrymen get employment as well.

I have suggested in the past that the country should conduct some kind of poll taking in order to be better informed of the mood of the Jordanian people. I still think this would be an excellent way to get acquainted with what makes Jordanians tick and what they are troubled by. Now is the time to introduce this methodology before the country goes too far with the drafting of the National Charter. As wise and enlightened could be the views of 60 eminent Jordanians, the mood of the country must be understood before we go any further with the charter idea or with the corrective measures being contemplated.

Egypt reconciles with Soviets, remains special U.S. friend

By Maurice Guindé
The Associated Press

CAIRO, Egypt President Hosni Mubarak has completed a six-year process of reconciliation with the Soviet Union without damaging Cairo's special relationship with the United States.

Mubarak returned home with political and economic benefits for Egypt after his 46-hour visit to Moscow this week.

He won Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's public support for his Middle East policies. It included Gorbachev's unprecedented condemnation of Israel for allowing Soviet Jewish immigrants to settle on the occupied Arab lands.

The two nations also signed a framework agreement that holds the promise of substantial Soviet economic aid for Egypt during the 1990s.

Perhaps more importantly, the improvement in Cairo-Moscow relations did not come at Washington's expense.

There was no hint during Mubarak's visit of any Soviet intent to revive the Kremlin's old role as principal arms supplier to Egypt, a role that the United States assumed in 1980. Nor was there any suggestion of Moscow trying to join the United States in current Middle East peacemaking efforts.

Rather, Mubarak came away with a Soviet pledge to support U.S. and Egyptian efforts to initiate a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue in Cairo. Previously, Moscow's policy focused solely on the Israeli-spurred idea of an international Middle East peace conference.

Mubarak's visit came six years after he opened a policy of trying to normalise relations with the Soviet Union, where as a young air force officer he learned to be a fighter pilot.

He began by restoring diplomatic representation to the level of ambassador. Later, he mended other fences smashed by his predecessor, Anwar Sadat.

Sadat, assassinated by Muslim extremists almost nine years ago, was the last Egyptian head of state to visit Moscow, in 1973 just before relations soured. First the Soviets refused to meet Egypt's arms requests. Sadat reacted with sweeping reprisals including expelling 17,000 Soviet Military personnel.

Despite the improvement in relations since 1984, there remained what one Egyptian official termed "a psychological shortcoming in terms of the absence of personal, face-to-face contact at the top."

Mubarak's visit last Monday Wednesday sealed that breach. Ibrahim Nafei, editor of Cairo's leading newspaper Al-Ahram and a member of Mubarak's entourage, wrote that the meeting "rectified the balance of relations and put them in the proper context."

More accurately, it codified the relationship — on the footing of close personal knowledge between the two leaders that had been missing.

The visit was part of an Asian-European tour that also took Mubarak to China, North Korea, Oman and Britain.

Before setting out, Mubarak made clear his objectives included seeking economic benefits and marshalling opposition to the settling of Israel's Jewish immigrants in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

He evidently succeeded. In a Moscow dinner speech honoring Mubarak, Gorbachev denounced settling immigrants among the 1.7 million Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza as "anti-Soviet." It is part of "insidious designs" by Israel, he said.

"To push emigrants to Israel into doing that amounts to dangerously and immorally playing with their fates," Gorbachev said.

NEW ANALYSIS

It was Moscow's strongest censure of Israel since the influx of Soviet Jews began last fall.

Officials in Cairo said the Soviets promised to consider Egyptian ideas. One would grant Soviet Jews the right to return if they find difficulties in Israel after emigrating. Another would ask the United States to relax restrictions on Soviet Jewish immigration.

Gorbachev and Mubarak also signed a joint declaration that reflected Moscow's apparent shift on Middle East peacemaking.

"The two sides support the use of all means to activate the peace process," it said.

"They welcome constructive proposals and initiatives — including the proposals aimed at launching Palestinian-Israeli dialogue and facilitating the convening of an international peace conference under U.N. auspices."

The joint declaration clearly gave precedence to U.S.-brokered peace talks over an international conference aimed at reaching an overall Middle East settlement.

Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard A. Shevardnadze told Egyptian editors the visit was "very successful and very important."

"It was a historic turning point in Egyptian-Soviet relations and marked the beginning of long-term cooperation in the various political, economic and cultural fields," the Soviet foreign minister said.

The 10-year framework agreement the two sides signed provides for economic, commercial, scientific and technological cooperation.

Under the accord, Egyptian officials anticipate receiving Soviet economic aid amounting to \$700 million-800 Million. They said this would include expansion of Egypt's steel and aluminum industries, originally built with Soviet help, and construction of new power stations.

Mitterrand beset by polls, new biography

By Marilyn August
The Associated Press

PARIS — Francois Mitterrand this week begins his 10th year as president with his popularity plummeting and his political integrity under attack in a new, best-selling biography.

Some political analysts predict Mitterrand's problems will worsen in the coming months. Others suggest the Socialist president will bounce back, as he has many times in an up-and-down, 45-year political career.

Mitterrand was first elected May 10, 1981, and won reelection to another seven-year term in 1988.

France's constitution gives broad powers to the president, who appoints the prime minister and controls the executive branch, including defence and foreign policy. The prime minister heads the cabinet and deals with parliament.

Recent public opinion polls show a dramatic drop in Mitterrand's popularity. A soft survey recorded a 12-point decline from 61 to 53 per cent in a single month, while a poll by the Journal du Dimanche newspaper found only 39 per cent of respondents satisfied with Mitterrand's performance.

The next parliamentary elections are two years away and the next presidential vote in 1995, too far off to be affected

by the recent negative polls. Analysts in France don't read any particular significance into the polls beyond a clear trend of disenchantment with Mitterrand.

"Do not ever forget: Francois Mitterrand is an artist of resurrection," says Franz-Olivier Geisbert, 41, author of the new, unflattering biography. "In 1980, he was finished. In 1981, he was elected president of the republic."

Geisbert, a prominent jour-

"The next parliamentary elections are two years away and the next presidential vote in 1995, too far off to be affected by the recent negative polls. Analysts in France don't read any particular significance into the polls beyond a clear trend of disenchantment with Mitterrand."

nalist who has worked for both leftist and conservative publications, has been following Mitterrand's career for many years.

His second book on Mitterrand, "The President," is filled with revealing anecdotes and interviews and conversations with presidential advisers, ministers, opposition leaders, reporters, and Mitterrand himself.

It strips away Mitterrand's

image as a lofty, high-principled statesman and depicts him instead as a politician who set "aside principle and ideology" to carve out his place in history.

"Mitterrand has fascinated me for a long time," Geisbert wrote in the introduction. "This man, in fact, is never the man you think he is. He is both better and worse."

"The whole Mitterrand is there, in this mix of electoral cynicism and artistic haze. He does not let himself be burdened by scruples when power is at stake," he wrote.

The book is a behind-the-scenes look at how the 73-year-old president wields power by manipulating political allies and enemies.

It chronicles his intense dislike of his longtime Socialist rival, Michel Rocard, whom he relegated to minor cabinet posts until attrition among his stalwarts forced him to name Rocard as premier after Mitterrand's re-election in 1988.

The book also describes how Mitterrand engineered a leftist coalition to beat Valéry Giscard d'Estaing in 1981. The manoeuvre was doubly useful to Mitterrand. It led, ultimately, to the decline of the Communist party and fuelled the rise of extreme-right National Front party, which has discredited and divided conservative political factions ever since.

Mitterrand's troubles have

been making headlines for weeks. Political analysts attribute them to several events, including the amnesty of a former Socialist minister involved in a political fund-raising scandal.

After the Socialist Party congress in April turned into a dogfight among contenders to the presidency, Mitterrand descended into the arena and gave a rare television interview trying to explain the mess. His efforts appeared to make matters worse.

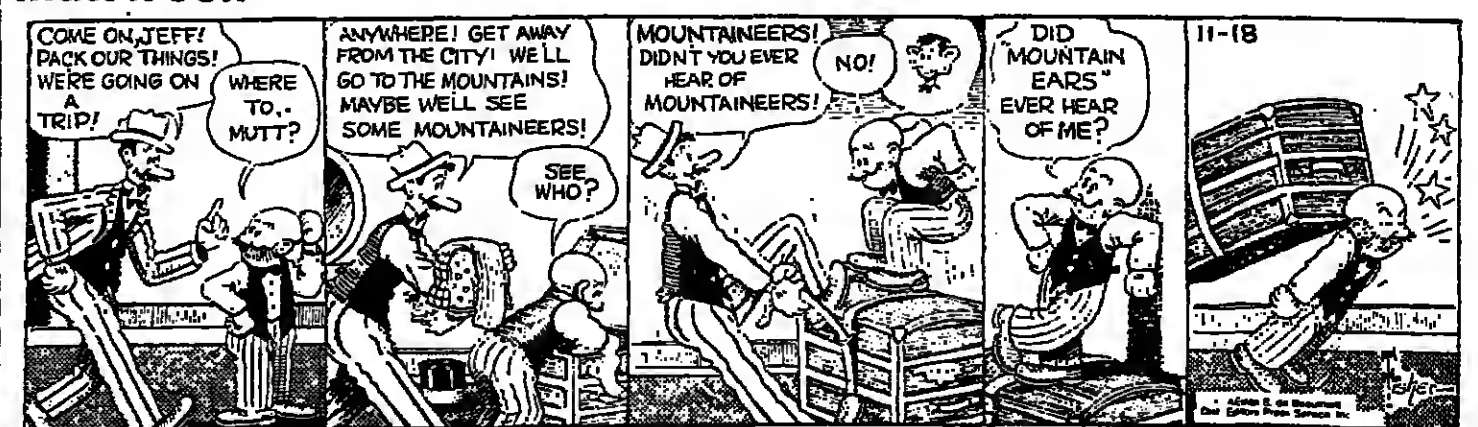
Analysts say Mitterrand's drop in popularity can be explained by his loss of favour among voters with political sympathies on the right. Many of these voters backed Mitterrand in 1988, viewing him as a reassuring father figure, comparable to Charles de Gaulle, who would work for the broad national interest.

"The key to his re-election was his ability to preserve influence beyond the political and sociological boundaries of the left," noted Eric Dupin in Liberation.

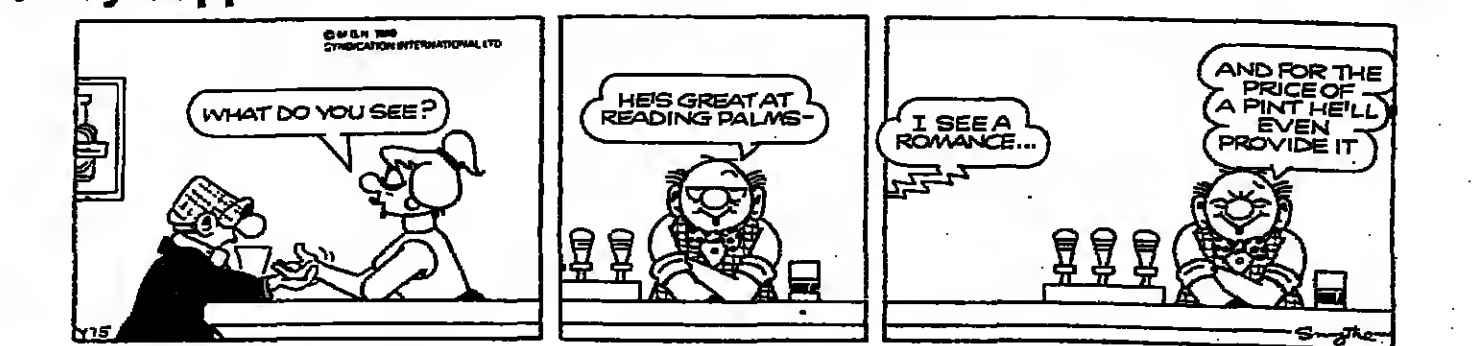
This loss of right-leaning voters has not been countered by an increase of support from the left, such as young people and blue-collar workers.

"Mitterrand is looking for the choke to get going again," headlined Liberation, a leftist daily. "The Elysee (Palace) seems to have run out of inspiration, and enthusiasm."

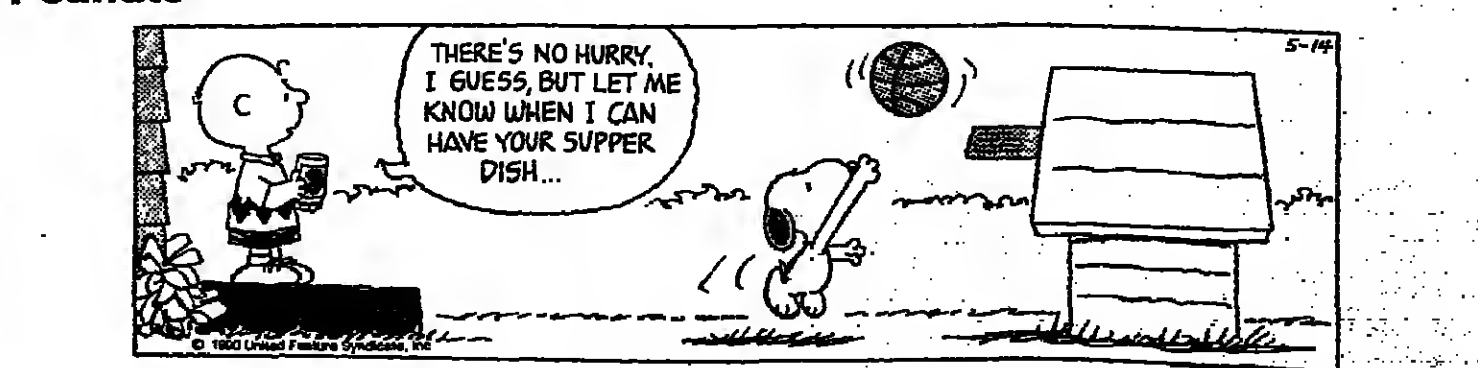
Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



Features

Dreams — emotions, fears and experiences; nothing less nothing more

By Saida El-Khatib

Special to the Jordan Times

FEAR RATHER than disbelief was what prevented "J.L." from going to a psychiatrist or even discussing her problem with her husband. For 10 days in a row, J.L. suffered from a haunting nightmare of the death of her son who had left for England a year earlier for higher education.

In the first few days, "J.L." hesitated to discuss her nightmares with anyone. She even avoided thinking about it herself. But, it kept coming back, haunting her life, and dominating her thoughts. Slowly she was turning neurotic, and she ultimately decided to discuss it with a friend, who in turn advised her to send her son a telegram or to go and see him.

Interpreted along Sigmund Freud's definition of dreams as realisation of wishes, J.L.'s nightmares could be explained as the manifestation of the yearning desire of a mother to see her son after a long absence.

According to psychiatrist and social worker Fatima Reid, "sometimes, dreams may reflect fears and emotions that are suppressed which come out from the subconscious; repeated dreams are in fact a sign of distress and pain and reflect unresolved conflicts." However, she added, "interpretations of dreams differ according to the psychological state of the person and according to his past experiences."

Yet, to dream that a relative is dead may go as far as a suppressed wish for his/her death. In his book entitled "Dreams," Freud explains that

dreams may reflect a hidden wish based on past experiences that could extend to infancy. At one time or another one wishes the death of his or her most beloved relative, as his parents or his brother or sister. Freud argues that "why do we always assume in advance that all these relations must be based on love?" He supports this theory by pointing out that sometimes hatred against someone could have grown since childhood after certain experiences with parents, such as a refusal of a cherished wish, or had treatment from siblings.

However, there is another side to this argument since it does not necessarily mean that anyone who dreams of a relative's death hates him/her or wishes his/her death: "It is either an extreme form of hostility, when we are periodically angry from the people we care

about and we cannot express. Or it may also mean that we deeply love them that we are afraid to lose them," explains F. Reid.

In this sense, dreams are not exactly a prediction of the future as many people think, as was in the case of J.L. who found that her son was doing well in England.

In fact, a dream is not but a link between what the dreamer envisages as problems and his final goal, according to the analysis of Mustafa Ghaleb in his introduction to "Dreams."

Ghaleb theorises that dreams may come true in many cases because the dreamer tries to train a part of himself or herself to the reality; i.e. he or she paves the way to the dream to be realised.

Thus, dreams basically reflect wishes that the dreamer may not be able to achieve in

actual life or wishes to achieve in the future. When one dreams, for example of being wealthy and surrounded by people whom he loves, or a student dreaming that he had failed in his exams, it is but some inner expression of the former's wish to become rich, and the latter's fear or failure in an important exam in what seems to him as a great responsibility or something unknown to him and may affect the future.

It happens sometimes according to Freud, that one may dream of any kind of wish that he/she could not realise when he/she is awake, such as drinking water or eating apples. The dream comes, consequently, to realise one's wish elaborating it in an amplified manner; such as drinking from a fountain or eating from piles of different sorts of apples.

In this category, people may also have symbolic dreams, says Reid, such as falling from a cliff or trying to reach some place but finding themselves unable to do so. "To dream of not being able to attain the purpose reflects but an inner fear of failure," Reid said. "One must always think positively in terms of his goals and wishes; in this manner he will have positive results in his daily life and in his dream. In doing so, we have to keep in mind that the power of the subconscious mind influences our thinking and our reactions to incidents and experiences that we confront," she pointed out.

In the final analysis dreams cease to be some kind of a prophecy or as some people think that they have discovered something new which they didn't know before; such as dreaming of a person or a thing

that we think we have never seen before. This may be due to the fact that we forget most of the things that happen to us or those we perceive in our daily life. Walking in a crowd, for instance, one may have a look at a small fraction of the people around him or her but forgets them since they are not perceived as having any consequence in his/her life. "But the mind may recollect a face or something that he/she has seen long ago and think that the dream brought to him/her something new that he/she didn't know about or didn't see before," according to Reid.

It may happen that two people have similar dreams; a phenomenon explained as "telepathic." These are similar to those incidents where one lifts the receiver to call a friend and finds that the friend on the telephone trying this end. "This

happens especially with twins, or those who are closely associated with each other and similar in perceiving things or even with people that we are so much attached to."

While dreams occupy a large part in our everyday life, they do not always carry meanings. There is what is called "routine dreams" that have no meaning at all but recollection of trivial conversations or incidents or daily activities.

In general, most psychiatrists and experts agree that most of our dreams are a form of release and comfort and a place to which we resort to in our need of relief. They express all our inner emotions, fears and experiences through the subconscious mind, reflecting our true feelings that we cannot express when we are conscious; to read anything more into it could be real fantasy.

Future bright for women managers

By Charles F. Hunter
USIA Staff Writer

WASHINGTON — Shifts in the composition of the American labour force and in employers' attitudes foretell that more women will be entering higher management positions in the years ahead, according to Constantine Newman, director of the U.S. Office of Personnel Management.

Newman spoke about the role of women in government May 16, on a WorldNet television dialogue programme with participants in Amman, Madras, Rabat, and Riyadh. It was the fourth in a series of World Net programmes called "Women in America."

Previous programmes focused on women in the arts, business, and public relations. The two participants from Amman were Jeanette Muftic, a candidate for the Lower House of parliament in last November elections, and Jordan Times staff reporter Nermeen Murad.

Newman said that President Bush named more women to administration positions than any previous chief executive. Today, she said, 43 per cent of the 2.2 million employees of the federal government are women. Though women do not represent more than about 10 per cent of career upper management, Newman said, those eligible for promotion are more qualified than ever before, and more men now are willing to hire and promote women. Such gains are irreversible, she stressed.

Noting that two-thirds of all those who will enter the work force in the United States by the year 2000 will be women, Newman predicted that employers will have to re-evaluate their practices as women begin filling "traditionally male" jobs and moving out of the ranks of the underpaid workers.

She pointed out that two members of the Bush Cabinet are women — Surgeon General Dr. Antonia Novello and Secretary of Labour Elizabeth Dole — as is the U.S. trade representative, Carla Hills.

Newman, who has taught at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, indicated that her personal success was due to "hard work and ... home-work." She insisted that her evaluation of subordinates and job candidates never takes gender

into account. Prospective managers' experience, flexibility, communication skills, and sensitivity to others matter most to her, she said.

Asked whether she thought a woman would be elected U.S. president before a black American, Newman responded that she believes that whoever can demonstrate a strong grasp of the issues and an ability to balance competing interests will be a strong candidate, regardless of sex or race. What is important, she said, is that women increase their participation in the political process. She pointed out that women compromise only 13 per cent of the current Congress.

Newman noted a number of developments that are helping to increase the number of women in top non-political, government jobs: officials now are reminded more frequently about the underrepresentation of women in high positions; women advancing on career tracks now find more management training available; and greater diversity on selection panels has meant greater equality of opportunity for advancement. Above all, however, she ranked efforts to convince top leadership to signal its readiness for change. She praised President Bush for having "sent the message out to his Cabinet and to all the people heading agencies; that he wants a greater diversity in the work force at all levels."

Newman declared that she does not consider hiring quotas to be useful. Better communication about expectations and performance is more important, she said. In the United States, federal statutes and state laws covering the private sector promise equal pay for equal work, she explained, so legal structures exist to protect women's rights in the labour force.

As a former participant in the women's movement during the 1960s and '70s, Newman noted that equal rights efforts had met with the most success in terms of their impact on the nation and the family, rather than on women alone. Today, Newman said, she finds economic inequality most troubling. She pointed out that women's groups feel solidarity with minority-rights groups because they see that the gap between "haves" and "have-nots" is not determined by race.



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"Electricité de France" (EDF), the top producer of electricity in the world (346.6 billion kilowatt hours in 1988) and the second largest French firm in terms of turnover (136.6 billion francs) does not limit its role to France, as the nature of its activities could lead one to believe.

Indeed, EDF has become a large exporting firm, not only of electric power, but also of know-how which it, at present, delivers through a specialised subsidiary.

EDF became a large electricity exporting firm gradually. Indeed, the distribution networks of neighbouring countries have, for years, been connected up to that of EDF and exchanges take place between them, according to the availability of needs of each. These exchanges are facilitated by the shortness of distances in Western Europe. Indeed, it is known that electricity cannot travel very far, owing to the great loss of current in the carrying cables.

This situation has greatly benefited the French firm which has the monopoly for power distribution in France and has a considerable surplus of power owing to the size of its nuclear potential (some twenty nuclear power stations which provide 70 per cent of the national supply and make France the second biggest producer of nuclear power in the world, after the United States). This energy, which cannot be stored, unlike the water in dams or the oil used in traditional power stations, can thus be made available to neighbouring countries, at an advantageous price. That is why, in 1988, EDF exported 44 billion kilowatt hours of electricity to neighbouring countries, that is to say 11 per

cent of the total amount of electricity it distributed that year. As imports of electricity only amounted to 7.4 billion kilowatt hours, the balance of trade in electricity is highly positive by nearly 37 billion kilowatt hours, with a surplus of 12.8 billion Kwh with the United Kingdom, 9.2 billion with Switzerland, 2.7 billion with West Germany, one billion with Spain and the same amount with Benelux.

In financial terms, this surplus represents 5.7 billion francs (7.2 in exports and 1.5 in imports). This sum contributes to considerably reducing the Energy Bill which, in 1988, amounted to 66.7 billion francs.

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Gorbachev urges private building to solve crisis

MOSCOW (R) — President Mikhail Gorbachev says he wants to encourage the private building of homes to help solve the Soviet Union's worsening housing shortage.

He said a totally new approach was needed if the Communist Party was to fulfil an ambitious plan to give every Soviet family its own home by the year 2000.

"It's obvious that it will be impossible to solve the housing problem using our current methods," he said in a long decree published Sunday by the party newspaper Pravda. He added that failure to meet 1989 building targets had only made things worse.

"The construction of private homes should be considered as an important state matter," Gorbachev declared. He said plots of land and building materials should be made available in the cities and the countryside.

His decree also called for the creation of a housing market through the use of taxation policies, new banks, and joint ventures in construction, the lifting of all restrictions on the exchange of flats and houses and the establishment of estate

agencies. The state had to shift the emphasis away from industrial construction and concentrate on building new flats and houses. Although there had been a recent increase in house building "the severity of the housing problem has not diminished."

"The queues for better housing, which now stands at 14 million people, have not shortened. More than six million people are living in communal flats," Gorbachev said.

"Almost 4.5 million families have less than five square metres per person to live in." The crisis has been blamed for the country's high divorce rate, low birth rates and labour instability.

In an opinion poll published Sunday by the outspoken weekly Argumenty i Fakty, 42 per cent of the country's urban population said housing conditions were their biggest problem.

Gorbachev said investment and resources had to be switched away from industrial construction, which has traditionally taken precedence over the building of homes.

As a result, many Soviet

families still live in communal flats, sharing kitchens and bathrooms with unequipped neighbours. Entire families often sleep, eat and live in one room.

The Soviet parliament has already passed laws allowing the sale of state-owned flats and making provision for private property but these have done little to solve the housing crisis.

The government now has until Sept. 1 to formulate policies along the lines of Gorbachev's decree.

The party decided in 1985 that every family should have its own home by the year 2000. In 1988 the government announced a one trillion rouble (\$1.6 trillion) plan to build 36 million new flats in the next 12 years.

Last year, Moscow's Communist youth newspaper Moskovsky Komsomolets said it was obvious the plan would fail.

Figures published in 1988 showed enormous waiting lists in the Russian Federation, the largest of the country's 15 constituent republics. In Moscow alone more than 340,000 families or individuals were seeking apartments.

Pundits said oil prices to rise; instead they fell

By Nicholas Moore

Reuter

LONDON — When the 1990s began, everyone said it would be a decade of rising oil prices. On cue, they fell.

Blame freakish weather, said market experts — and still be ready to pay a little more for petroleum before too long.

They admitted, however, to being surprised by how fast a new glut developed lately and the extent of the slide in prices.

"I did not expect them to go so low," said Mehdi Varzi, an analyst with Kleinwort Benson Securities in London.

Prices for North Sea Brent blend, the world benchmark, sank from \$22 per barrel in January almost to \$15 in April.

It took a special meeting of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and emergency cuts in output, chiefly by Saudi Arabia, to put a floor under the market.

Industry analysts said that demand for heating fuel during exceptionally cold weather in the United States last December added a million barrels a day to U.S. oil imports.

Prices rose. OPEC boosted its production. But then the weather turned unusually mild and there was also some slowing of the global economic expansion. Demand suddenly looked flat.

One trigger for prices to fall was that Iran could not find contract buyers for its heavy, sulphurous crude and dumped it on the spot market. Many refineries were also shut for maintenance.

Volatile prices are in prospect until surpluses are mopped up. But industry leaders such as Robert Horton, chairman of British Petroleum, are sticking to forecasts that Brent blend will still turn out to average \$19 for the whole of 1990.

That would be little changed from last year.

Underlying recovery

The argument goes that the

recent market gyrations have masked a gradual underlying recovery of demand for OPEC oil from the massive glut of the 1980s, caused after prices as high as \$40 stamped the West to find other energy sources.

One effect of rebounding demand is that nearly all producers in and out of OPEC are back producing at full capacity.

Several are rushing to expand capacity — some of which just rusted away during the 1980s — but this takes time and money.

Industry officials say it is therefore possible that before long there will be a period when OPEC no longer has to try to impose production quotas on all 13 members and when only Saudi Arabia, the biggest exporter, must shut in appreciable volumes.

The Saudis already influence prices. If the others were all going more or less flat out they could just dictate them.

They could regulate the spot market — on which most prices are now based — by selling a more or fewer spot cargoes whenever they felt like it. Or they could come out in the open and simply tell a fixed government selling price for their own Arab light crude and make that the world market.

Industry sources said Saudi Arabia could easily and cheaply get capacity up to a daily average of around eight million barrels compared with actual output around 5.5 million now.

Traditionally, the Saudis have been pricing moderates and they still appear to favour keeping prices fairly soft. They do not want to reignite inflation and hazard the economic expansion on which the reviving thirst for Arab oil depends.

This year, for instance, they pressed Gulf allies Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to join them in cutting above-quota output only when prices threatened to crash. They had earlier kept the taps

up during the December-January pricing "spike."

Trade sources say a 1990 average of \$19 for Brent blend — implying around \$20 for gasoline-rich U.S. benchmark west Texas intermediate — would probably snuff the Saudis.

Kleinwort Benson's Varzi, however, was among analysts who thought Saudi Arabia might soon have to think of moving prices gently higher or risk a situation in which demand threatened to outstrip supply and cause a new pricing explosion.

"How long can you go on boosting demand?" Varzi asked. "In five years, the call for OPEC oil has risen by seven million barrels a day. If prices are low I see no end to that trend but I can see limits to OPEC's ability to meet the demand."

Weak prices both stimulate demand and make it harder for many producers to find the money to invest in raising their capacity.

The OPEC secretary-general, Subroto of Indonesia, says it may cost \$60 billion to make sure that enough capacity will be on tap after the mid-1990s to mean that any supply disruptions can be accommodated without "a shock to the system."

How soon the market tightens to the extent that the Saudis can assert control may depend on the ability of the Soviet Union, the biggest producer, to maintain exports.

Shearson Lehman Hutton Securities see a tight market in the early 1990s as East German integration with the West invigorates that nation's economy.

The Daiwa Research Institute believes that strikes by Soviet oil workers, twice postponed in recent months, are likely to occur and "terrible internal strains within the Soviet Union... will probably lead to unrest and jeopardise oil exports."

Philips, Thomson sign pact

AMSTERDAM (R) — Dutch and French electronics giants Philips and Thomson said they have signed a \$3.6 billion cooperation agreement to develop high definition television (HDTV).

Television manufacturers in Europe, the United States and Japan see HDTV as their next great opportunity to introduce a new and profitable product globally as the market for conventional television sets approaches saturation.

Industry analysts say HDTV, which offers much higher picture quality, could represent a \$25 billion market within 10 years.

A Philips spokesman said the deal with state-owned Thomson, the world's largest producer of

television sets, was announced in Paris by French Industry Minister Roger Roux.

The five year deal precedes an international meeting in Dusseldorf this month where delegates will try to set a uniform world standard for HDTV.

Neither NV Philips Gloeilampenfabrieken nor Thomson SA released statements on the deal but the Philips spokesman confirmed a report in the London-based Financial Times newspaper that the pact would complement the European Community's Eureka project to develop the new television system.

Philips shares opened 0.30 guilders higher at 33.80 before easing

to 33.60 in early trading after the HDTV news.

The Financial Times said the Philips-Thomson deal covered all HDTV development, including components, integrated circuits, flat screens, studio equipment and the sets.

Philips and Thomson in January announced a link-up with United States television network NBC and David Sarnoff Research Centre to develop HDTV for the U.S. market.

The European HDTV strategy calls for the introduction of the system offering compatibility with existing television sets. Japan's HDTV standard does not have this compatibility.

Report forecasts huge gains if farm policies overhauled

PARIS (R) — The world would reap a windfall of more than \$200 billion a year if rich and poor nations dismantled farm subsidies and import barriers, according to a report released Monday.

Developing countries such as Egypt and Mexico and many African nations that import food would have to pay more unless wealthy nations pledged assistance.

The report by the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the World Bank lends support to efforts by the United States and a group of food

exporters to overhaul agricultural policies.

Washington says agricultural export subsidies, price supports and import barriers distort trade by favouring farmers at the expense of consumers, taxpayers and developing countries.

The European Community (EC), with almost five times as many farmers as the United States, has rejected the U.S. plan at global trade talks, held within the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) and set to finish at the end of the year.

Without taking sides in the debate, the 488-page report con-

cludes that radical farm policy reform would help both rich and poor nations and that it would be particularly beneficial if programmes affecting all commodities were overhauled.

"Liberalisation offers the world a potential dividend estimated at well over \$200 billion a year in savings to governments — and their taxpayers — and food purchasers," the report said.

Farm policy reform in the industrialised countries would boost commodity prices by about 12 per cent, according to one of the 15 separate papers in the report.

Unity deals heavy blow to worried E. German farmers

By Andrew Gumbel

Reuter

EAST BERLIN — In battery farms all over East Germany, hundreds of thousands of pigs wait penned up in wire cages for a butcher's knife that never arrives.

The country's collective farms are stockpiling about 30 million eggs they cannot sell. And vegetable growers have destroyed whole crops of leeks and other spring produce rather than let them rot in warehouses.

The reason? Since the opening of the borders last year and the first stirrings of free trade, a flood of imports from the West has simply swept the market.

East Germany's unwieldy centralised farming system was unable to keep pace. "Our own products, even when they are of similar standard, are just not selling any more," Agriculture Minister Peter Pollack said.

Farmers are distressed by the rapid transition to a market economy their political masters have imposed.

Like millions of their compatriots, many fear they will lose their land and livelihood after the economies of the two Germanys formally merge on July 2, with the West German mark the official currency.

Their worries look well founded. Pollack has predicted that a fifth of East Germany's 4,500 farms will be forced to close and about half will have to restructure with government

aid. The minister also expects about half of the country's 800,000 farmers to lose their jobs in the next five years.

But what worries farmers the most is that, in the confusion and speed of the unification process, they have no idea what will happen to them from one week to the next.

"Farmers and smallholders must be informed about ground rules for their work, such as taxes, subsidies, development grants, minimum prices and quotas," a statement by leading farmers' associations said this week.

The statement also complained that farmers had no idea whether their state-owned collectives would be sold off and if so to whom, if they would have to pay rent, or what interest rate they would have to repay debts at.

The farmers have attracted much public sympathy — in East Germany's local elections on May 6, farmers' groups took about six per cent of the vote.

Asked at a news conference to specify how things would unfold after monetary union, Pollack acknowledged: "We have no experience of how these things develop."

"Everyone has to think harder how to market their products," he added, but gave few suggestions.

What Pollack has done is to introduce strict licensing of imported food to protect domestic markets. Foreign com-

panies are banned from trading in areas where East Germany is self-sufficient, such as dairy products and flour.

They are, however, allowed to import items like asparagus or oranges — exciting novelties in a country notoriously lacking in a wide variety of fruit or vegetables.

But the farmers complain that these measures, brought in earlier this month, have not worked. "Sties are still packed with pigs, cattle and milk still undersold. The egg mountain hasn't stopped growing and vegetables have to be destroyed or ploughed over," the statement said.

East Germans, long deprived of many consumer goods, have gone on a buying craze for anything Western — even for things as simple as yoghurt or biscuits which were always readily available.

As a result, East German products do not stand much of a chance.

"All people are interested in is the West, the West, that's all you hear about," one disgruntled farmer told state television.

East Germany also has a long way to go to restructure a sector of the economy warped by the Communists that ruled the country for 40 years.

Environmentalists have pointed out, for example, that there is not enough grain grown for domestic needs because fields have been turned over to industry or to build giant pig farms.

Prague joins cooperation group

VIENNA (AP) — Czechoslovakia Sunday formally joined Austria, Italy, Yugoslavia and Hungary in a regional cooperation group that is the only one in Europe to unite neutral, non-aligned, North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) and Warsaw Pact nations.

The foreign ministers of four nations and a high foreign ministry official from Hungary met in Vienna to discuss ways of furthering cooperation in transport, communications, the environment, culture and small businesses.

They then boarded a Danube river boat to sail to Bratislava, capital of Slovakia, for more talks.

The organisation grew out of cooperation between border regions of Italy, Yugoslavia, Austria and Hungary that began 11 years ago in the "Alps-Adria" group.

These four nations decided to boost cooperation last fall, just before the peaceful revolution in Czechoslovakia that toppled the Communists and brought former dissidents such as Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier and President Vaclav Havel to power.

The decision to admit Czechoslovakia was taken in April. Italian Foreign Minister Gianni De Michelis and Yugoslavia's Budimir Loncar said Romania and Bulgaria also have applied to join.

Austrian Foreign Minister Alois Mock said Switzerland also would be welcome "if she wants to take part."

De Michelis, an active promoter of the cooperation with his eastern partners, stressed at a news conference that one aim of the organisation is to ensure that Western Europe considers the demands of regions between the Adriatic, Alps and Danube.

He indicated there is a danger that organisations such as the European Community (EC) could become overly preoccupied with questions posed by German reunification, ignoring other regions.

He said the five nations hope to be among the first to apply for investment grants to the new bank for European Development and Cooperation formally founded in Paris Saturday.

France's Attali to head bank for East Europe

PARIS (R) — French presidential adviser Jacques Attali was chosen Saturday to head a new development bank to revive the economies of Eastern Europe, and London was picked as its home, delegates said.

But the Netherlands and Belgium, furious at what they saw as a behind-the-scenes deal by the big powers, refused to accept majority vote at a meeting and said they might not sign the bank's statutes at a Paris ceremony set for May 29.

"It was not a formal vote," Dutch Finance Ministry Spokesman Jaap Weeda said of the count, which saw Attali and London selected by wide margins.

Asked whether the Netherlands, which championed Amsterdam and former Dutch Finance Minister Onno Ruding, would join the bank, Weeda replied: "That depends. We have 10 days to think over our position."

The squabbling was an inauspicious birth for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), conceived to help the economies of Eastern Europe rise from the ashes of 40 years of central planning.

Smaller countries of the European Community (EC) were angered by a Franco-British deal struck earlier this month, with the consent of Italy and West Germany, to divide the spoils of the bank.

Weeda said the resistance of the Dutch and the Belgians sent an important message. "A protest now and then puts a limit on the power of the big nations," he said.

Cees Maas, treasury director at the Dutch finance ministry, went further. The head of the bank should be chosen for his talents and not as a result of horse-trading, he told reporters.

A senior French official, however, said the vote was taken only after exhaustive debate among the bank's 42 shareholders on the best way to proceed.

"We reflected for a long time, and when we voted there was a

clear majority in the first round," he said.

Attali, special adviser to President Francois Mitterrand, won 32 of the 42 votes in a secret ballot, representing 86 per cent of the voting power weighted by capital contributions, while Rending received only eight votes, delegates said.

The two EC institutions participating in the bank, the European Commission and the European Investment Bank, abstained because of the divisions among the 12 EC members.

In the ballot on the bank's headquarters, London won 23 votes representing 71 per cent of the capital, delegates said.

Copenhagen and Amsterdam received five votes each, Vienna and Ljubljana in Yugoslavia got two, and there was one vote for Prague and Dublin. Three delegations abstained.

Attali first came up with the idea for the bank late last year as the decay of the East Bloc gathered pace, and he was always favoured to be its first head as a reward for getting the agency off the drawing board in a relatively short time.

"Many people shared the feeling that France should get something out of this," a Nordic delegate said.

Experts will start work Sunday drafting the bank's rules and regulations and plotting how best to help Eastern Europe revive its moribund economies.

Delegates have set a deadline of March 1991 to achieve the ratifications, by parliaments speaking for two-thirds of the voting power, needed for the bank actually to start lending.

The bank will have a capital of 10 billion European Currency Units (ECU) (about \$12.5 billion) and will lend that amount over a five-year period. Sixty per cent of the loans will go to Eastern Europe's fledgling private sector and 40 per cent will be spent on road-building and other public works.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Sunday, May 20, 1990

Central Bank official rates

| | Buy | Sell | French franc | 120.1 | 120.8 |
|----------------|--------|--------|------------------------|-------|-------|
| U.S. dollar | 68.0 | 67.0 | Japanese yen (for 100) | 436.6 | 439.2 |
| Pound Sterling | 1128.9 | 1125.7 | Dutch guilder | 360.3 | 362.5 |
| Deutsche mark | 404.9 | 407.3 | Swedish crown | 110.9 | 111.6 |
| Swiss franc | 475.4 | 478.3 | Italian lira (for 100) | 55.1 | 55.4 |
| | | | Belgian franc (for 10) | 195.8 | 197.0 |

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR MONDAY MAY 21, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This first day of Gemini finds very confusing influences in effect around noon so you must strive to eliminate all possible muddled thinking by being sharp, keen and alert.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Get into business conversations and rid yourself of obligations today while tonight be off to make some new allies and gain data before unavailable.

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) During the day it is possible for you to uncover activities of a public nature in which you can engage in while tonight finds you very business like.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Concentrate upon doing whatever usual endeavors face you before the evening when you can get out in the world and achieve fine results.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Even when in world of action it is today advisable that you consider what you can do to improve home conditions. Tonight get in tune with current recreations.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Whatever you have in mind of a personal nature should be easy to obtain by your own forthrightness, then tonight consider how to improve your budget.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) A private formula to better gain intimate personal longings can bring considerable progress during day, tonight go after increasing your charm.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) A day to engage in whatever research is possible to enhance the success of putting across your talent.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) Put your attention on doing what will make your material relations with others ok during day and tonight be equally positive in visiting helpful friends.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Whatever you have in mind of a personal nature should be easy to obtain by your own forthrightness, then tonight consider how to improve your budget.

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SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21)

1st hurdle reportedly cleared for South Africa-ANC talks

JOHANNESBURG (R) — The South African government and Nelson Mandela's African National Congress (ANC) have cleared a major hurdle obstructing serious negotiations on a new non-racial constitution, it was reported Sunday.

Government and ANC officials trying to establish a procedure for releasing political prisoners have made remarkable progress and will report back to their leaders Monday, the Johannesburg Sunday Times said, quoting a highly-placed source.

"It will be all systems go," the source said.

The joint working group was established under the Groote Schuur minute, issued on May 4 after three days of historic talks between teams led by Mandela and President F.W. de Klerk.

The group was given a Monday deadline to work out an acceptable plan for releasing ANC political prisoners, a sticking point in progress towards talks on power-

sharing. In addition to indications the group had made progress, there was speculation that the ANC and the Zimbabwe government were close to a deal on the release of a South African spy and six other activists held in Zimbabwean jails for guerrilla attacks against the ANC.

Their release would make it easier for Pretoria to reciprocate by freeing jailed ANC activists, political sources said.

Reports in Harare indicated that President Robert Mugabe might act this week to release the pro-Pretoria prisoners.

The Groote Schuur group is now expected to turn to other thorny issues — considered easier

to resolve than the prisoner release — including the repatriation of some 22,000 ANC members living in exile, a review of security laws and an end to a four-year-old state of emergency.

The government announced Saturday that 38 leading ANC members in exile would be granted a three-month indemnity from prosecution if they were to return home.

A Justice Department spokeswoman said the indemnity deadline, which expires on Aug. 19, should be seen as a temporary measure to satisfy immediate requirements.

She said further announcements could be made later, but declined to elaborate.

Mandela, on an African tour, said Saturday in Cairo he was prepared to consider a "cessation of hostilities" if de Klerk took what he called serious steps to dismantle apartheid.

He told reporters this did not mean an end to the armed struggle, the key concession on constitutional reform can be made.

Mandela's conciliatory remark was seen as a sign that the ANC was preparing to abandon its policy of waging a guerrilla campaign against South African targets until the last vestiges of apartheid had disappeared.

The ANC, wary of de Klerk's favourable reception during his current European tour, will be involved in important meetings this week with white South African interest groups.

Mandela will meet about 500 top businessmen Wednesday to discuss the economy in a post-apartheid South Africa.

Top South African military experts will fly to Lusaka later in the week for talks with leaders of the ANC's military wing, Umkhonto We Sizwe (Spear of the Nation).

Colombian election campaign ends

BOGOTA (R) — In a siege-like atmosphere of bombings and murders, Colombia's presidential candidates are winding up their campaigns for an election which will decide the future of the government's war on drug barons.

Fear of assassination following the murder of three presidential aspirants in nine months drove several leading candidates to shun public appearances to seek votes in the May 27 poll.

Police blame drug barons for a series of car bomb blasts which have punctuated the campaign, killing more than 60 people, and the murder of 50 policemen in the drug centre of Medellin.

The violence has forced candidates to campaign mainly on radio and television. When they do go out, they are surrounded by a ring of anxious bodyguards with pistols at the ready.

Leading candidates planned rallies in the capital, Bogota, Sunday, the official close of the campaign. Cesar Gaviria, the ruling Liberal Party's candidate, who has received death threats, will appear in a closed hall under tight security.

Voters will decide the future of President Virgilio Barco's nine-month-old assault on the billion-dollar drug trade, which has plunged Colombia into a war with traffickers who supply 80 per cent of cocaine used in the United States.

Barco began the drug crackdown in August last year after gunmen believed to have been hired by drug-traffickers shot dead Liberal presidential hopeful Luis Carlos Galan. Two left-wing presidential candidates have been killed since March.

Gaviria, the favourite to win, would continue Barco's crusade. But most other candidates say Colombia is paying too high a price in the drug war and must consider alternatives.

Some politicians and analysts say not only the drug war but Colombian democracy itself is at stake in the election.

Eduardo Pizarro, a sociologist and brother of murdered left-wing candidate Carlos Pizarro, said drug violence benefited extreme right-wingers. He said he feared a serious attack before the elections could lead to an authoritarian right-wing takeover.

Despite the drug issue, the campaign has been low-key. Voters in a country where abstention traditionally ranges between 40 and 60 per cent, appear more interested in the Colombian soccer team's first appearance in the World Cup for 28 years next month than in the election.

After Pizarro's murder, the government gave candidates more time on radio and television.

Twelve candidates are contesting the elections but only four have significant support.

The last published opinion poll, in the liberal El Tiempo newspaper last month, predicted Gaviria, a 43-year-old economist and former interior minister, would win 60 per cent of the vote.

The Liberal Party's traditional challenger, the Social Conservative Party, is split. Official candidate Rodrigo Lloreda polled 13 per cent in the survey while breakaway candidate Alvaro Gomez registered 18.3 per cent.

The other significant force is the leftist former guerrilla group M-19, with about 4.3 per cent of voter support.

Lloreda and Gomez are both critical of Colombia's anti-drug strategy. Lloreda says the government should have accepted the drug barons' surrender offer last January and Gomez has stopped legalising drugs as a solution.

Meanwhile police seized over 1,360 kilograms of cocaine in northern Colombia while gunmen murdered three more police officers in Medellin apparently as part of a terrorist campaign blamed on drug traffickers, police said Saturday.

A special antismuggling police unit found the cocaine Friday when they raided a processing laboratory near the town of Fuenfria, 120 kilometres north of Bogota, a police communiqué said.

Police also seized ether, acetone and other chemicals used to make cocaine as well as processing equipment, the communiqué said.

The three Medellin police officers were killed in separate attacks late Saturday by gunmen who then fled, a police communiqué said.

In the last eight days, 20 police officers have been murdered in the city, the base of the Medellin cartel. Police have said the cartel is paying over \$4,000 for each police officer killed.

South Korean radicals battle police in Kwangju

KWANGJU, South Korea (R) — More than 8,000 South Korean radicals battled riot police with bricks and petrol bombs in the centre of Kwangju Sunday in the worst violence in the volatile southwestern city in at least three years.

Huge groups, mainly dissident students, fought with police guarding main road junctions in the provincial capital which has drawn radicals from all over the country to commemorate a 1980 uprising.

The streets west of the provincial capital building, where workers and students had planned a protest march, were strewn with rocks and broken glass from petrol bombs, and sprayed with tear gas powder.

One observer said it was the worst fighting in Kwangju since 1987 when nationwide protests forced the government to grant democratic reforms.

The rest of the country was quiet, however, with all the protest centred in Kwangju, 260 kilometres southwest of Seoul.

The demonstrations were called to mark the 10th anniversary of the uprising in Kwangju in May 1980, which the army crushed after 10 days, killing about 200 by official count.

Dissidents and Kwangju citizens say the number was much higher. The circumstances and final death toll of what residents call the "Kwangju massacre" have never been acceptably clarified, making the incident an emotive political issue among many South Koreans.

Police across the country have been put on maximum alert and thousands of students around the country have been detained — and most released within hours —

after a violent clash between police and radicals. The clash was the worst in the city since 1980. The police used tear gas and live ammunition. The radicals used bricks and petrol bombs. The police fired 30 warning shots in the air to drive away a crowd of about a thousand stone-throwing protesters.

In the central city violence, groups of one to two thousand students, mostly throwing rocks, attacked hundreds of police guarding major road junctions. The police seemed unusually reluctant to arrest anyone, although the protest was illegal, and students did not try to overpower the vulnerable police despite their much greater numbers.

Early in the fighting, police caught about 22 students and forced them into kneeling position on the street. But they let them after ordinary citizens started arguing with them.

"Think about the Kwangju massacre, that's why these young people are protesting. How can you keep them, let them go," one older man pleaded with the police.

While students fought police in the streets, passersby on side alleys broke up bricks for students to throw and cheered from the sidelines. Although the confrontation was carefully structured to avoid serious injury, witnesses saw one man, in his first year at a Taegu University, with his arm injured by a policeman's steel pipe.

Taiwanese president calls for better ties with China

TAIPEI (AP) — President Lee Teng-hui in his inaugural address Sunday urged better relations with Peking as a step toward reunification of Taiwan and China and ordered some political prisoners released from jail.

For the first time, a Taiwanese president publicly indicated a desire to drop the country's 40-year-old China policy known as the "three no's" — no official contact, no negotiations and no compromise.

Lee, who was elected president in April by the National Assembly, proposed establishing "channels of communication" with China, including academic, cultural, economic, trade, scientific and technological exchanges to "lay a foundation of mutual respect, peace and prosperity."

"We hope then, when objective conditions are ripe, we will be able to discuss the matter of our national reunification," he said.

But Lee said before such relations could be established, Peking must renounce the use of force against Taiwan, end its policy of isolating Taiwan diplomatically, and promote democracy and a free economic system in China.

Lee's Nationalist Chinese government has been based on the island of Taiwan since losing a civil war to Communist forces on the Chinese mainland in 1949.

The Nationalists still claim to be the rightful government of all China, and Peking regards Taiwan as renegade province.

While Peking previously has indicated it would not meet the conditions set by Lee, the speech

clearly was designed to reflect Taipei's desire to gradually improve relations.

The president also expressed a desire to end within two years the "mobilisation for the suppression of the Communist rebellion," which dates from 1948. The decree has ensured the Nationalists' monopoly on power by stipulating that legislators elected before 1949 on the Chinese mainland must stay in office until they can return to their constituencies for reelection.

This has presented obstacles to expanding relations with China and introducing democratic reforms in Taiwan.

Lee's address included a two-year timetable for bringing more democracy to Taiwan. He restored civil rights to previously jailed leaders of the opposition Democratic Progressive Party, who had been barred from running for office.

But his recent nomination of a four-star general as the new premier has led opposition politicians and intellectuals to question the government's commitment to democratisation.

About 10,000 people, including students and opposition party members, staged a noisy protest march through the streets of Taipei Sunday to denounce Lee's choice of Gen. Hsu Pei-Tsun as premier.

"Although President Lee has proposed democratic reforms, Hsu is a military strongman opposed to pluralism," said student leader Chin Yu-Ping as protesters marched from downtown park to the sound of gongs and drums.

No more student arrests, Chinese party chief says

PEKING (R) — China's security forces have stopped hunting students who took part in last year's political unrest, Communist Party leader Jiang Zemin said, in an interview broadcast in Japan Sunday.

Diplomats in Peking said Jiang's remarks were the latest in a series of conciliatory statements made by Chinese leaders to try to persuade Western governments to lift their sanctions.

"We have completely given up our pursuit of students who took part in demonstrations and strikes," Jiang said, his words broadcast by Japan's NHK public television network on the first anniversary of the imposition of martial law in Peking.

"We are taking a liberal approach in dealing with the violators," he told visiting Japanese reporters last week.

Jiang, who took over as party leader after the army crushed mass pro-democracy demonstrations in Peking last June, urged Japan to resume friendly relations with China.

In coordination with most Western nations, Japan froze officials' loans and stopped high-level visits to China to express its

dismay at the brutality of the slaughter in Peking.

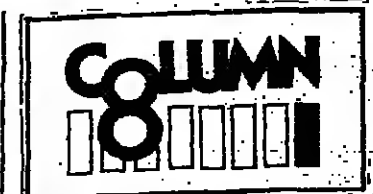
Restoration of ties with Japan is crucial for China because Tokyo has postponed the release of an agreed five-year loan worth \$10 billion (¥136 billion).

In a tougher statement aimed at China's home audience Sunday, Premier Li Peng said the security forces would be beefed up with new equipment and political education while the country continued to open to the outside world.

"We must continuously enhance the quality of the political and professional work of the security forces and improve equipment for the police," Li said, quoted on the front page of the party newspaper People's Daily.

On May 20 last year, tens of thousands of people poured into the streets of the Chinese capital to block convoys of troops sent to enforce martial law and end pro-democracy protests.

Occupied a year ago hunger-striking students, Tiananmen Square Sunday was full of sight-seers enjoying a day off.



Goddard leaves \$20m to university

NEW YORK (AP) — Actress Paulette Goddard left New York University (NYU) more than \$20 million and the papers of her late husband, novelist Erich Maria Remarque, the university said. Miss Goddard, who died on April 23 in Switzerland, endowed seven new professorships with \$1.2 million each, NYU President John Bradasas said. They are in film, urban planning, creative writing, literature, European studies, languages and political economy. In addition, here bequest provided three \$1 million scholarships, \$3 million to establish a fund to attract and assist junior faculty and \$7 million for a special endowment, Bradasas said. The university plans to name a residence hall for Miss Goddard.

Depardieu will travel to Moscow

PARIS (AP) — Gerard Depardieu, star of the multi-million dollar blockbuster film, Cyrano, will travel to Moscow in June to promote the film adapted from Edmond Rostand's theatre classic. Director Jean-Paul Rappeneau, the 100-million-franc Cyrano is France's most expensive production ever, and stars Depardieu as the long-nosed dreamer who breathes his passion and poetry into the empty head of a simple soldier to woo the beautiful Roxanne. It was Depardieu's 60th film role, and critics agreed it was his best.

Brando's son pleads not guilty

LOS ANGELES (R) — Christian Brando, 32-year-old son of actor Marlon Brando, pleaded not guilty in a packed courtroom to the murder of his half sister's boyfriend in a shooting described by a defence lawyer as a tragic accident. Brando, who could be sentenced to 25-years-to-life imprisonment if found guilty of the murder of Dag Drollet, was also charged with possessing a machine gun without a licence, and a silencer. Drollet, 26, a native of Tahiti who had gone out with Brando's half sister, 20-year-old Cheyenne Brando, for a year, was shot late Wednesday with what a coroner's spokesman said was a single shot to the head and the neck. The weapon was believed to be a revolver. A distraught Marlon Brando tried to give Drollet mouth-to-mouth resuscitation before telephoning for the police, lawyers said.

Hawke recovering from surgery

SYDNEY, Australia (AP) — Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke was resting comfortably in a hospital Saturday after undergoing prostate surgery, a government spokesman said. The 60-year-old prime minister had a small non-cancerous growth removed from his prostate gland during a one-hour operation Friday at St. Vincent's Private Hospital in Sydney. A local anaesthetic was used. The spokesman said Hawke was "quite comfortable" and cheerful Saturday following a good night's sleep. The spokesman said there were no complications from the surgery. Hawke is expected to stay in the hospital until the middle of next week and will then rest at his home in Canberra for a week. Federal Treasurer Paul Keating is acting prime minister while Hawke, who recently was re-elected to a record fifth term, recovers from the operation.

Rolling Stones start European tour

ROTTERDAM (R) — The Rolling Stones opened their first European tour for eight years in Rotterdam, playing a fiery rendition of "start me up" to 50,000 fans, many of them a generation younger than their rock idols. The veteran group is scheduled to appear in 13 West European countries in the next three months but may extend the tour to include the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and other East European nations, an official from CBS Records said. Mick Jagger, in a flaring red military coat and matching red socks, emerged from behind a dozen exploding torches to take command of the crowd at Rotterdam's Feyenoord Stadium. On stage, the same impassioned energy that endeared him to crowds in the 1960s was attracting a new generation. "The Rolling Stones are timeless," said Claudia Lichtenthen, who was born the same year the band was formed — 1963. "I grew up on the stones. My parents listened to them and my older brothers," said another 24-year-old fan.



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